



Story and Art by **Yumi Tamura**

Vol. 17



shôjo

BASARA™

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Yumi Tamura

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Vol. #17

Shôjo Edition

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PARENTAL ADVISORY

BASARA is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. Contains realistic violence.



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An apocalypse brought human civilization to its knees, and control of Japan passed into the hands of tyrannical kings. At the birth of a rebel chieftain's twins, the blind prophet Nagi predicted, "This is a child of destiny, one who will grow to lead the people and be the light in the sky of our nation's future."

Under Ukon XV's harsh rule, a better tomorrow can only be achieved through strife and bloodshed. When the "Boy of Destiny" is killed by the Red King's forces, it is up to his twin sister Sarasa to lead their people in his name, or all will be lost.

Sarasa has achieved victory over the Red King in Kyushu and the Blue King in Seiran, gaining many allies along the way. She has also proven herself in Okinawa to the south and the Tohoku region in the north. Her closest comrades now know the truth about her gender; her confession has galvanized them further.

Meanwhile, the Red King's recklessness has inspired a coup. After fleeing alone, Shuri has been forced to reevaluate his viewpoint and start from scratch. Despite newly acquired allies in Shikoku, he has failed in battle against Tatara. Worse, although he and Sarasa have fallen in love, they have finally learned the truth about their secret identities. Torn by the discovery, Shuri attempts suicide only to be "rescued" by Asagi, who has sold him into slavery.

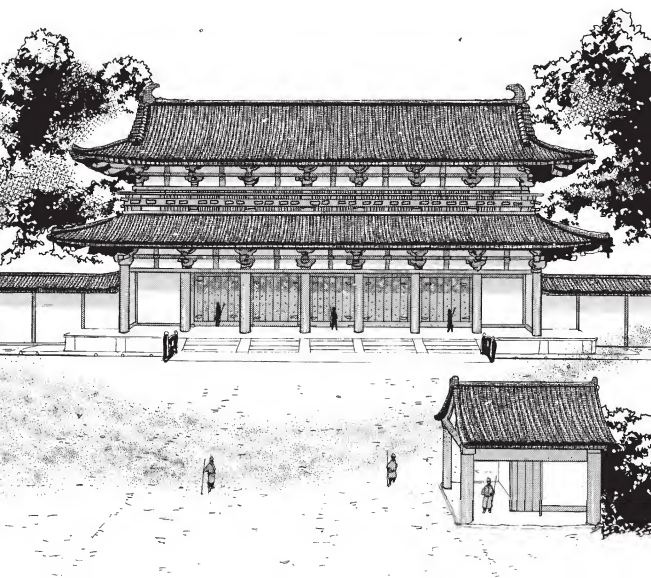
After being reunited with her mother in Tohoku, Sarasa has regained her emotional balance and found a new ally in Lady Purple, wife of the Black King. With Lady Purple's help, she has the chance to prove herself in the very heart of King Ukon's lands—the capital of Kyoto!

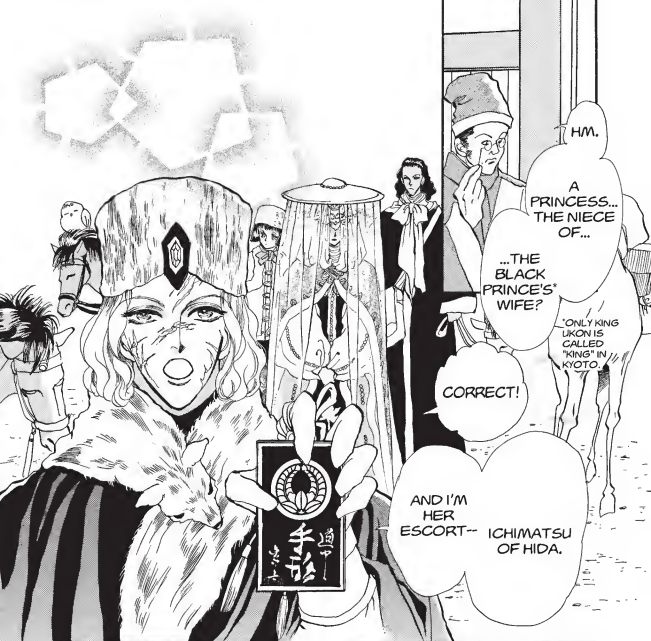
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GOLD TALE 1: ROYAL CAPITAL

*"IN THE END, EVEN
THE MIGHTY FALL;
THEY ARE LIKE THE
DUST, AT THE
MERCY OF THE
WIND..."*





H.M.

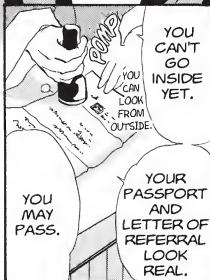
A
PRINCESS...
THE NIECE
OF...

...THE
BLACK
PRINCE'S
WIFE?

"ONLY KING
UKON IS
CALLED
"KING" IN
KYOTO.

CORRECT!

AND I'M
HER
ESCORT-- ICHIMATSU
OF HIDA.

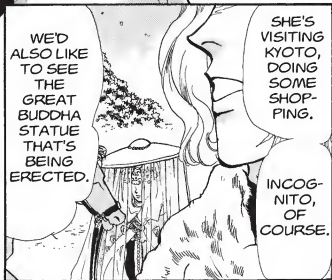


YOU
CAN'T
GO
INSIDE
YET.

YOU
CAN
LOOK
FROM
OUTSIDE.

YOU
MAY
PASS.

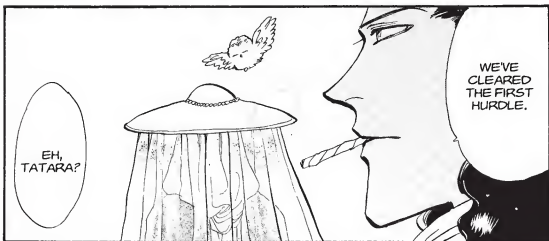
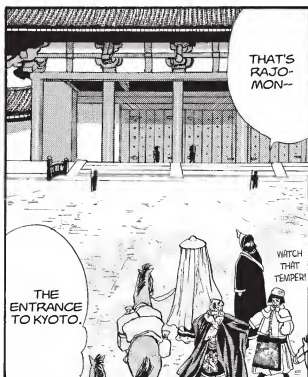
YOUR
PASSPORT
AND
LETTER OF
REFERRAL
LOOK
REAL.



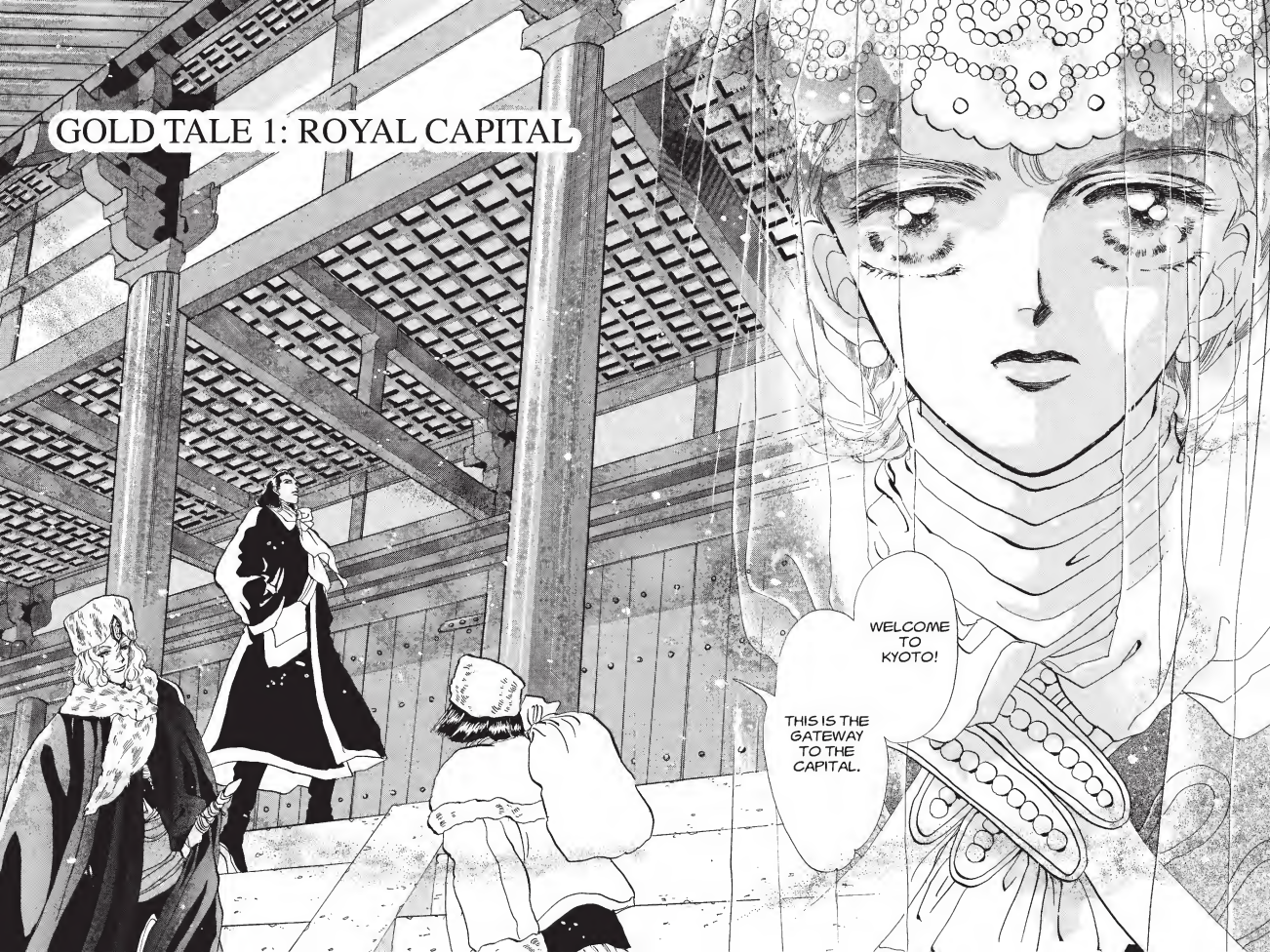
WE'D
ALSO LIKE
TO SEE
THE
GREAT
BUDDHA
STATUE
THAT'S
BEING
ERECTED.

SHE'S
VISITING
KYOTO,
DOING
SOME
SHOPPING.

INCOG-
NITO,
OF
COURSE.



GOLD TALE 1: ROYAL CAPITAL



WELCOME
TO
KYOTO!

THIS IS THE
GATEWAY
TO THE
CAPITAL.



TINY TAM-TAM TIME ①

Hello!

Thanks for all your letters!
I will write back, though it may
take a (really) long time! ♡

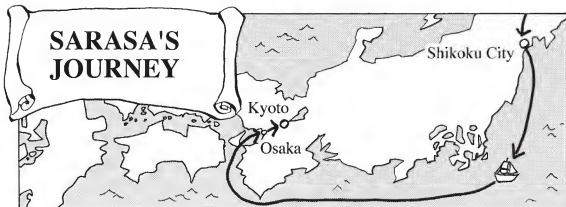


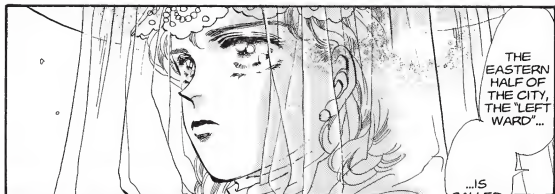
The cover for this volume may look weird.

The statues are of the twelve heavenly
generals who serve the Buddha of
Medicine.

TAMU

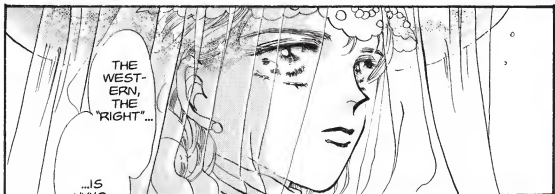
SARASA'S JOURNEY





THE
EASTERN
HALF OF
THE CITY,
THE "LEFT
WARD"...

...IS
CALLED
SAKYO.



THE
WEST-
ERN,
THE
"RIGHT"...

...IS
UKYO.



AND--

...THE CASTLE
STANDS AT
THE VERY END.

IF YOU KEEP
GOING
STRAIGHT UP
THE AVENUE...

TOOK HIS GLASSES OFF TO LOOK DIFFERENT.



WHERE
KING
UKON...

...THE
RULER
OF
JAPAN
LIVES.

THE
ROYAL
CASTLE.

.....

OR
ARE
YOU
JUST
IN
SILENT
AWES?

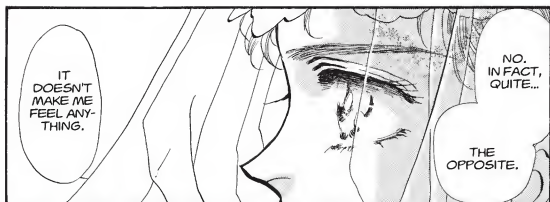
HEE
HEE

CAT GOT
YOUR
TONGUE,
TATARA?

BUT WE
CAN'T DO
ANYTHING
ABOUT
HIM THIS
TIME.

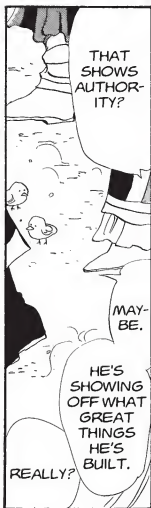
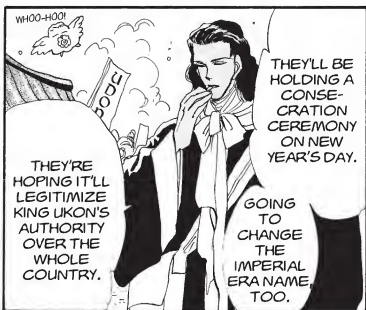
WE'RE
ON
OTHER
BUSINESS.

THE
SIGHT OF
IT MIGHT
CHURN
YOUR
GUT--











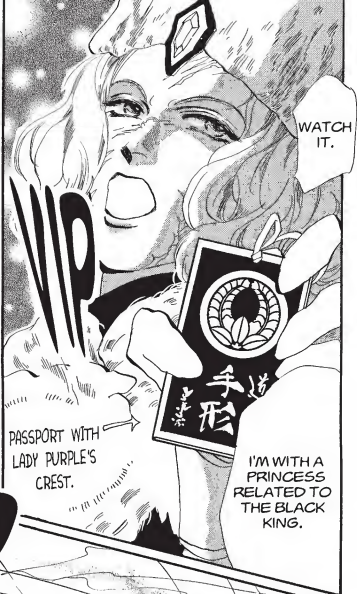




PRIN-
CESS?



SHK



WATCH
IT.

PASSPORT WITH
LADY PURPLE'S
CREST.

I'M WITH A
PRINCESS
RELATED TO
THE BLACK
KING.

SNP

FVNSH



SHOULDN'T
YOU HAVE
SKIN AS
FAIR AS
SNOW?

YOU'RE
PRETTY
TANNED
FOR A
NORTHERN
PRINCESS.

HEY!

WHAT
WAS
THAT
FOR!?



...SNUCK
INTO THE
CITY IN
DRAG.

WE HAVE
TO BE
THOROUGH.
SOME
TRAITORS
HAVE
EVEN...

I'M
WELL
AWARE
OF
THAT.



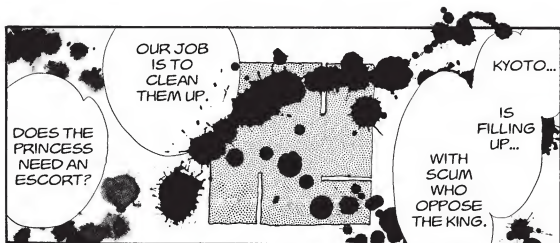
...H-HOW
COULD
YOU!?

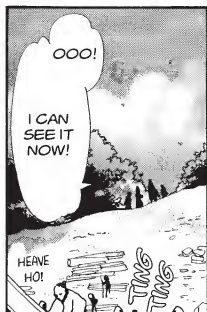
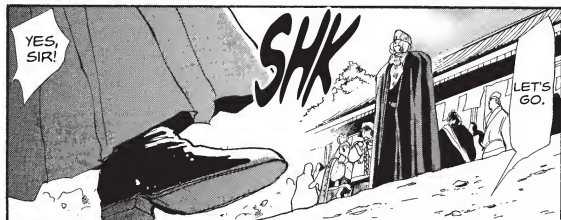
OH!

HEY!

THAT
WAS
VERY
RUDE!

THE
PRINCESS
IS TERRIBLY
SELF-
CONSCIOUS
ABOUT
THAT!







THE
BUDDHA
STATUE IS
INSIDE?

SO
THAT'S
THE
GREAT
BUDDHA
TEMPLE.

YEAH.



IS THE
STATUE
FIN-
ISHED
YET?

NOT
YET.

ALL WE
GOT LEFT
IS
COVERING
IT WITH
GOLD.

WE'RE
ABOUT
FOUR
FIFTHS
DONE.



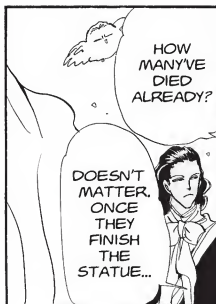
DO YOU
WANT THE
WRATH OF
THE
BUDDHA
ON YOUR
HEADS!?

THE
TEMPLE'S
OFF LIMITS
UNTIL THE
CONSE-
CRATION!



SCUSE
ME!

CAN WE
SNEAK
A PEAK
INSIDE?





THIS IS
WHAT I'VE
FEARED.

THREE PEOPLE
FROM MY VILLAGE
AND MORE FROM
OCHIORI...

...TO HELP
BUILD A BIG
STATUE OF
BUDDHA.



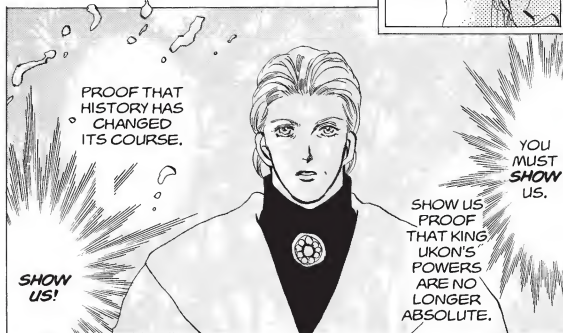
...WERE
TAKEN
TO
KYOTO...

THAT WAS
WHERE I LOST
YUNOKA AND
MY
GRANDFATHER.

I TRIED
TO SAVE
THEM...
AND
FAILED.

AT
TSUYAMA
GORGE...







...WE
HAVE
TO
TRY!

I DON'T
KNOW IF
IT'LL
PROVE
THAT OR
NOT,
BUT...

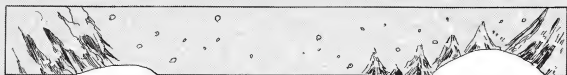
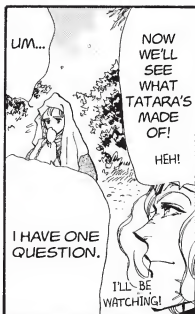
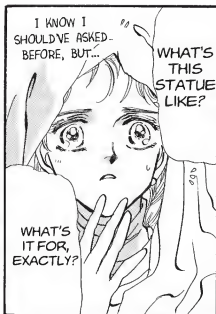
WE'LL RUIN THIS
CONSECRATION
CEREMONY!



AT LAST,
I'VE
COME
TO SAVE
YOU!

I'M
SORRY
I'M SO
LATE...

WE **MUST**
SAVE THE
PEOPLE
WHO ARE
BEING
FORCED
TO WORK
THERE!

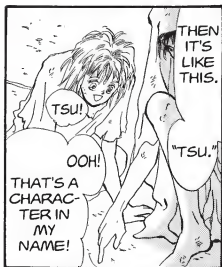


THEY WANT US TO SEND OUR SLAVES.

THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO ERECT THE GREAT BUDDHA STATUE IN KYOTO.

BUT YOU'LL BE SHIPPED TO KYOTO TOMORROW.

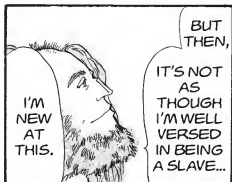
YOU MAY HAVE JUST ARRIVED IN SHIKOKU CITY...





...YOU DON'T
SEEM LIKE
YOU
BELONG IN
HERE.

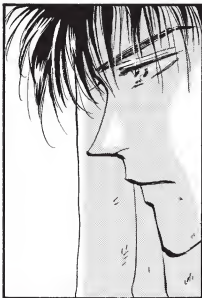
YOU
KNOW...



BUT
THEN,

I'M
NEW
AT
THIS.

IT'S NOT
AS
THOUGH
I'M WELL
VERSED
IN BEING
A SLAVE...



GASP!

OH, NO!



DID YOU
HEAR?

...WILL BE
BURIED
ALIVE
ONCE IT'S
DONE?

THE
SLAVES
BUILDING
THE
BUDDHA
STATUE...

VERTICAL TAM-TAM TIME ①



ASAGI, MEANWHILE...

☀ MORNING



I DON'T WANT TO GET UP.
IT'S TOO COLD.

AND THAT'S IN
KYOTO...





WHILE THERE'S
A KING THERE
ARE SLAVES.



AS LONG
AS THERE'S
AN UPPER
CLASS,
THERE'LL
BE A
LOWER
CLASS.



SO YOU HAVE
RADICAL
VIEWS.



WHAT
COMES
AFTER
"TO"?

OH,
NO-
THING.

THAT'D
BE "NA."

OUCH...



WHAT
IS
IT?



YEP.

I WAS
LABELED
A
CROOK.

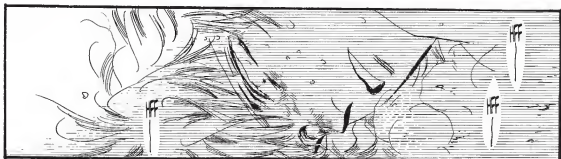


...I
SEE.

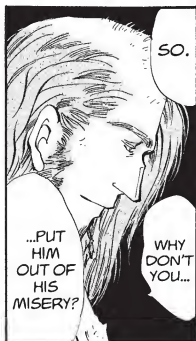
AND
THAT'S
WHY YOU
WERE
THROWN
IN HERE?

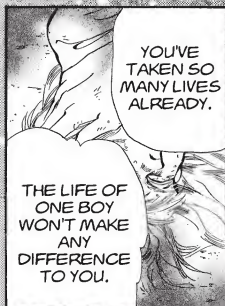


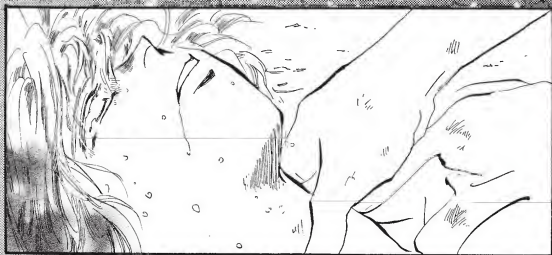














THE
"MI"...
IN MY NAME.

TA...

TSU...

...MI.

...NAME...

...I CAN
WRITE
MY OWN...

NOW...

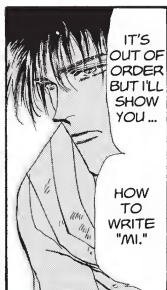
EVEN
JUST A
FEW
MORE
HOURS...

YOU
WRITE
"MI"
LIKE THIS.

GOT
THAT?



YOU
WILL...?



IT'S
OUT OF
ORDER
BUT I'LL
SHOW
YOU ...

HOW
TO
WRITE
"MI."



I
WILL.

YOU
HAVE
TO LIVE
AS
LONG
AS YOU
CAN.

HANG
ON TO
YOUR
LIFE.



HE'S
COOL-
ING HIS
HAND...



WHAT'S
HE
DOING...?



A
COLD
WIND

THE
FAINT
SOUNDS
OF A
SNOWY
NIGHT.

HOWLING

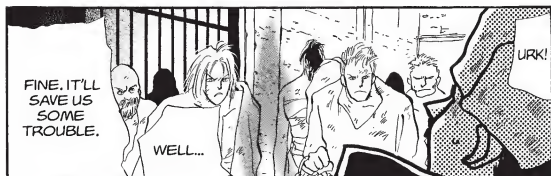
EVER
HOWLING

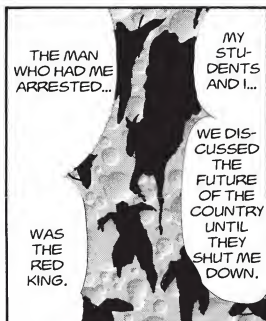
IN
THE
SOUTHEASTERN
SKIES...

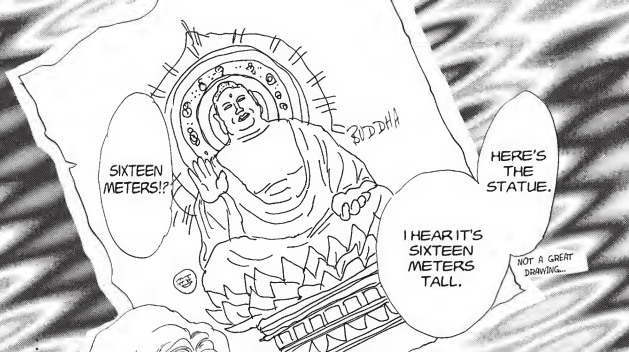
GET UP,
SLAVES!

IT'S
MORNING!









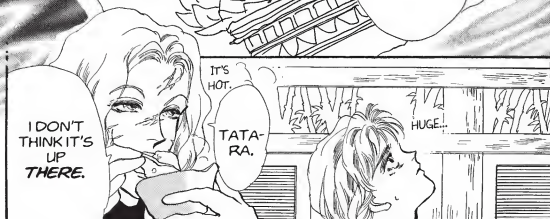
SIXTEEN METERS!?

BODDHA

HERE'S THE STATUE.

I HEAR IT'S SIXTEEN METERS TALL.

NOT A GREAT DRAWING...



I DON'T THINK IT'S UP THERE.

IT'S HOT.

TATA-RA.

HUGE...



JUST A SYMBOL OF POWER.

THAT'S ALL.

IT'S NOT AS IF HE'S MUCH OF A BUDDHIST.



SO THIS IS A MAJOR STRAIN ON RESOURCES.

IS IT SAYING HI?

WHAT PURPOSE DOES IT SERVE?

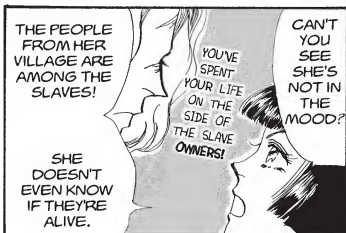


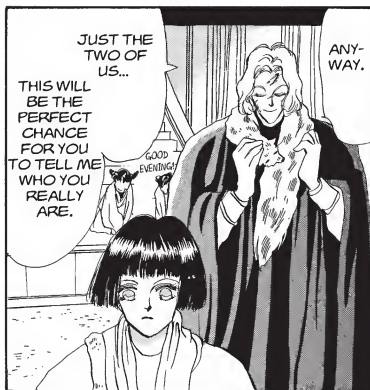
KYOTO'S "BLACK MANSION"

IT'S HOLLOW... COPPER Poured INTO A MOLD...

THE PROCESS USUALLY TAKES DECADES, BUT UKON WANTED IT DONE IN THREE YEARS.

THEN THEY PAINT IT GOLD.





...HE
MUST'VE
BEEN
WORRIED
ALL THIS
TIME.



I SHOULD GET
MORE
INFORMATION
FIRST. HISHA'S
FROM
OCHIORI...

MAYBE I CAN
GET A LITTLE
CLOSER...



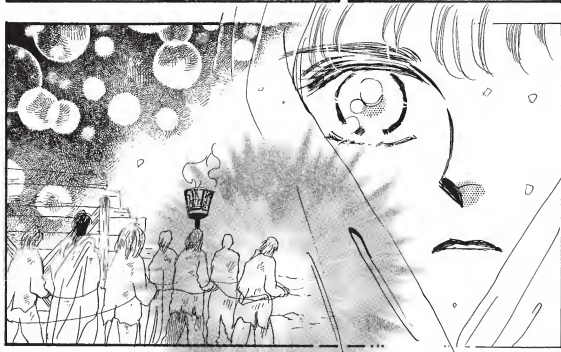
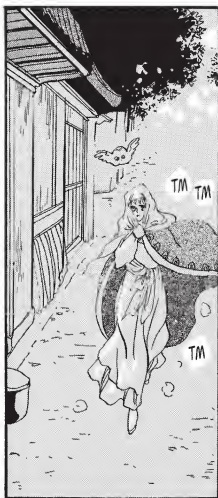
THEY'RE STILL
WORKING...

IT'S
AFTER
DARK.

20 OF
'EM.

THAT'S
ALL!?

WE GOT
THE
SLAVES
FROM
THE
BLACK
KING.





SHURI!?

BUT
HOW!?

IT
CAN'T
BE
HIM!



PRIN-
CESS.

...ALL
ALONE AT
THE
GREAT
BUDDHA
TEMPLE?

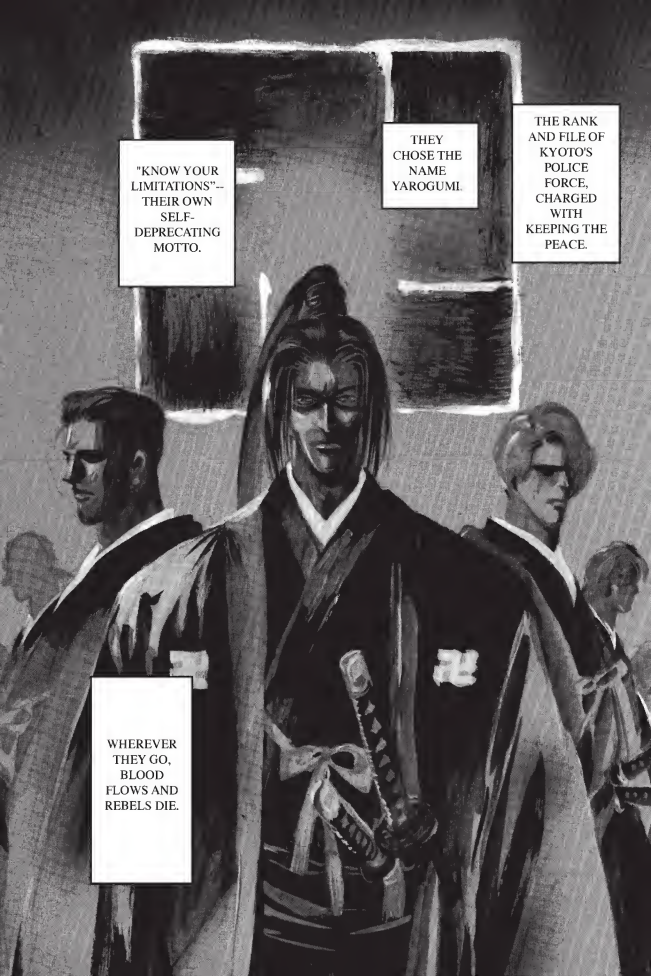
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
OUT SO
LATE...

THE
YAROGUMI!





GOLD TALE 2: BEGINNING



"KNOW YOUR
LIMITATIONS"--
THEIR OWN
SELF-
DEPRECATING
MOTTO.

THEY
CHOSE THE
NAME
YAROGUMI.

THE RANK
AND FILE OF
KYOTO'S
POLICE
FORCE,
CHARGED
WITH
KEEPING THE
PEACE.

WHEREVER
THEY GO,
BLOOD
FLOWS AND
REBELS DIE.



TINY TAM-TAM TIME: ②

Tam-Tam
Q&A

Which of the "Four Virtues" are men and which are women?



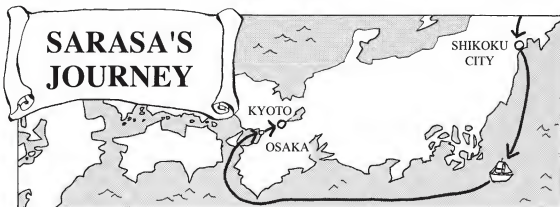
I'm sorry it has been hard to tell. ♪
It's a legitimate question! ♪ →
It breaks down like this.



Kiku is the only girl. (A lot of people think she's a guy...) ♪
She's a girl, okay?

TAMU

SARASA'S JOURNEY





↑ THE BLACK MANSION.





BUT IT
COULDN'T
HAVE
BEEN!

...THAT
SLAVE
FROM
THE
NORTH-
EAST.



I HAVE TO
SEE
INSIDE
THE
TEMPLE...

...JUST
ONE
MORE
TIME...

FOCUS ON
WRECKING
THE
CONSE-
CRATION
CEREMONY.



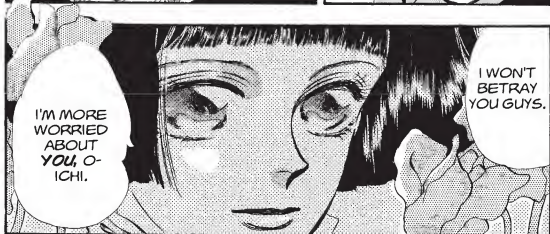
HEY, I
GREW UP
HERE!

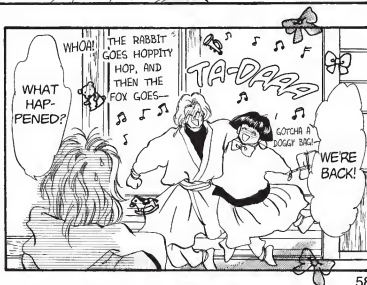
UP
IN THE
HILLS
THOUGH.

EVERYBODY
KNOWS
THAT.

FEH.
THE
FOOD'S
MUCH
BETTER
UP
NORTH.

KYOTO
COOKING
IS SO
GOOD!





AN
OFFER-
ING

TO THE
GREAT
BUDDHA
TEMPLE!?

SOUNDS
GREAT.

I'LL
ACT AS
DEPU-
TY...

...I'N MAKE
THE
OFFERING
ALL AT
ONCE.

MMM.

ICHIMATSU!
WE CAN
USE THAT!

MESSA-
GE?

OH, NO!
MASTER
ICHIMATSU!

OH, HAPPINESS!

WE
HAVE A
MESSAGE
FOR YOU
FROM
SHIKOKU
CITY!

BLECH

I SHOULD INTRODUCE HER TO CHICHA.

THE GOLD FOR
THE STATUE IS
ARRIVING FROM
SADO DAY AFTER
TOMORROW, IN
THE
AFTERNOON.

AND
LATER
THAT
NIGHT...

SHIKOKU
CITY

SADO

BLACK KING'S
DOMAIN

KYOTO

...THE REST OF
THE GOLD WILL
ARRIVE FROM
SHIKOKU CITY.



SO LET'S
MAKE A
PLAN!



I KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
THINKING!

OOO!

YOU
DO?



COULD
YOU--

THE
OFFER-
ING IN
TWO
PARTS?



...AS AN
OFFERING
TO THE
BUDDHA.

50 KILO-
GRAMS
OF
GOLD...

I HAVE
THE
HONOR
TO
PRE-
SENT...

FROM
THE
BLACK
KING...

GREAT BUDDHA TEMPLE

THANK
YOU, LORD
ICHI-
MATSU.

THE
STATUE
IS
MOSTLY
COM-
PLETE.

ALL THAT
REMAINS
IS TO
GILD IT
WITH
GOLD.

FIRST THING
TOMORROW
MORNING...

THE BLACK
PRINCE
CAN
ALWAYS BE
COUNTED
ON.

I WILL
BRING
THE
REST
OF THE
GOLD.

IT'S ALL
WE HAD
TIME FOR,
BUT IT
SEEMS TO
BE
HOLDING
UP.

ALAS,
WE'VE
ALREADY
RUN OUT
OF
GOLD...

EVEN
THOUGH
WE MIXED
IT WITH
MERCURY.

WE RAN
OUT OF
COPPER,
TOO.

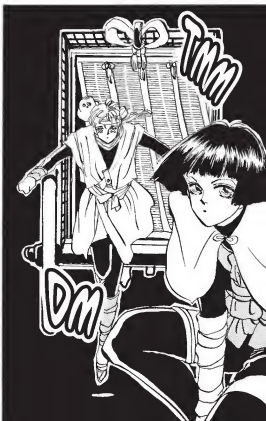
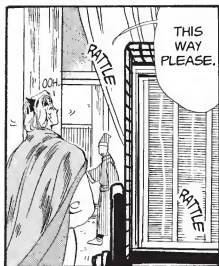


WE HAVE
TO FIND
OUT WHAT
IT'S LIKE
INSIDE--

SEVEN
O'CLOCK
TOMORROW
MORNING--

ICHIMATSU WILL
COME BACK
HERE AGAIN.

WITHOUT
GETTING
CAUGHT!





COME BACK
HERE AGAIN
BY SEVEN!



DON'T
BE
LATE!

GOONG

GOONG

...THEY
WON'T BE
ABLE TO
SNEAK
BACK
OUTSIDE.

WE HAVE
THIRTEEN
HOURS.
THAT'S
PLENTY.

THAT'S
THE BELL
TOLLING
SIX
O'CLOCK.

IF THEY
MISS
THAT
CHANCE...

GOONG

...OUR
PLAN WILL
BE
RUINED.

THE BASE-
MENT'S
DEEP,
TOO.

HIGH
CEILINGS.

IT'S BIG
INSIDE.

IF THIS
TURNS
INTO A
FIGHT...

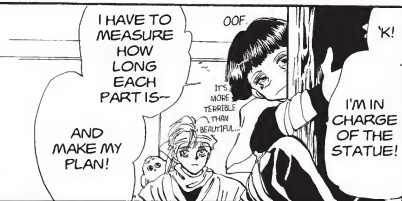


ALL
RIGHT,
THEN...



IT'S BUILT ON
THE
SACRIFICES
OF SLAVES.

NO
MATTER
HOW
GLORI-
OUS
IT IS...



I HAVE TO
MEASURE
HOW
LONG
EACH
PART IS--

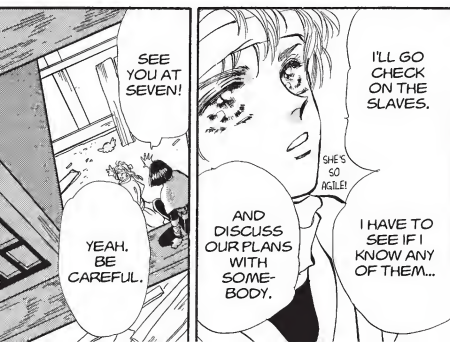
OOF

'K!

AND
MAKE MY
PLAN!

IT'S
MORE
TERRIBLE
THAN
BEAUTIFUL...

I'M IN
CHARGE
OF THE
STATUE!



SEE
YOU AT
SEVEN!

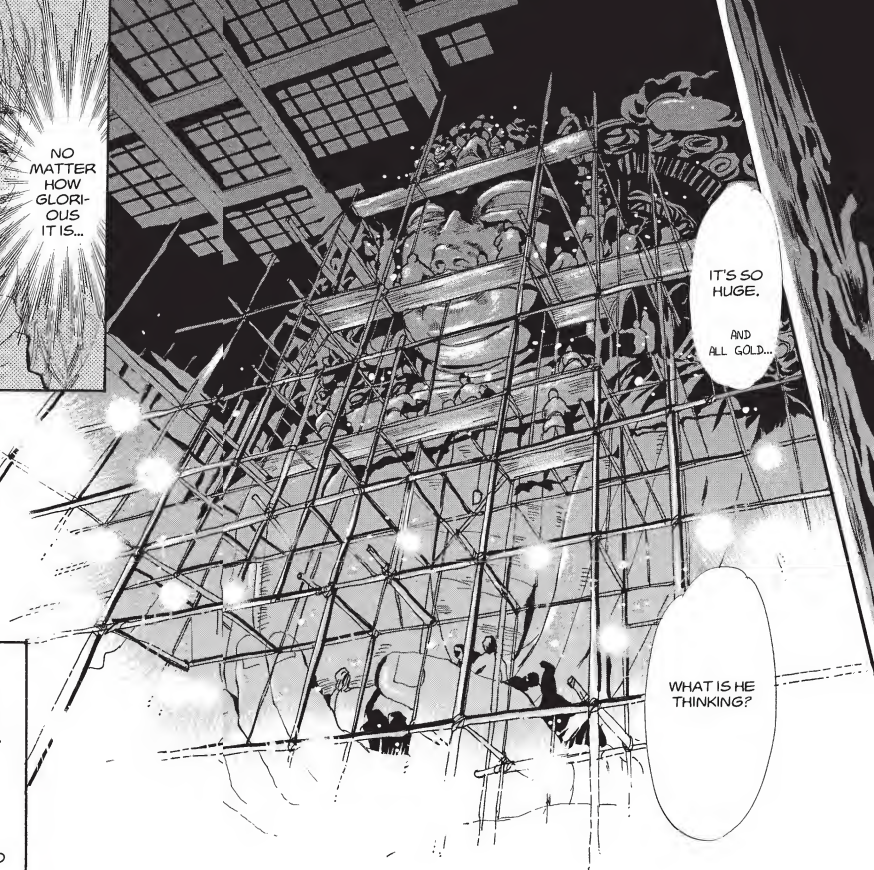
YEAH.
BE
CAREFUL.

I'LL GO
CHECK
ON THE
SLAVES.

SHE'S
SO
AGILE!

AND
DISCUSS
OUR PLANS
WITH
SOME-
BODY.

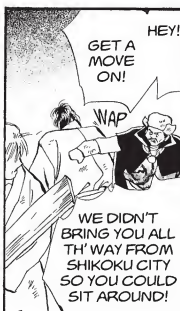
I HAVE TO
SEE IF I
KNOW ANY
OF THEM...

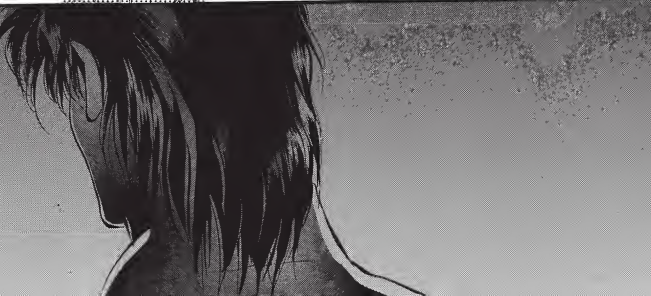
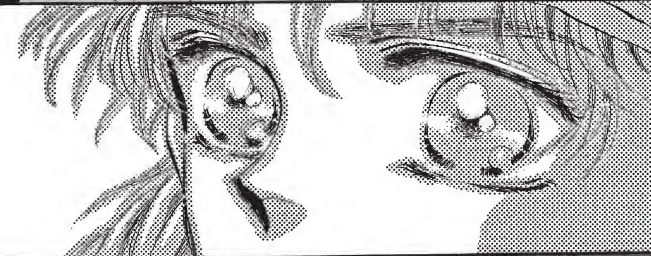


IT'S SO
HUGE.

AND
ALL GOLD...

WHAT IS HE
THINKING?









HOW CAN
I TELL
JUST
FROM HIS
BACK?

HOW
DO I
KNOW
IT'S
HIM?

WHY?



IT'S GROWN
OUT...

HIS HAIR...



SHURI...

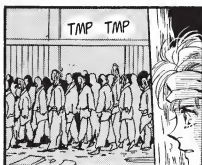
HE'S LOST
WEIGHT...

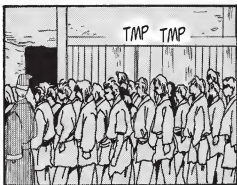
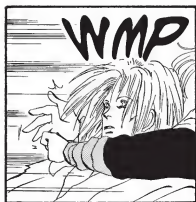




THEY WERE TOLD TO CLEAN UP. →

KYOTO'S HIGH
AESTHETIC STANDARDS.









THEY'RE
MAKING US
DIG OUR
OWN MASS
GRAVE
RIGHT NOW.

THERE ARE
200 SLAVES.
WE'LL ALL
BE BURIED
ALIVE ON
NEW YEAR'S
EVE.



LISTEN,
ORIBE.

I'M GOING
TO DISRUPT
THE CONSE-
CRATION
CEREMONY.

AND I'M
GOING TO
RESCUE
EVERYONE.



NOT
REALLY...

OH,
BUT...



DO YOU
HAVE A
LEADER
AMONG
YOU?

I'D LIKE
TO TALK
TO HIM.



I'LL
GO RELAY
THE
INFORMATION
TO THEM.

THEY'RE
TAKING
THE LEAD
IN
DIGGING
AN
ESCAPE
ROUTE.

SOME
PEOPLE
WHO
ARRIVED
RECENT-
LY FROM
THE
NORTH...

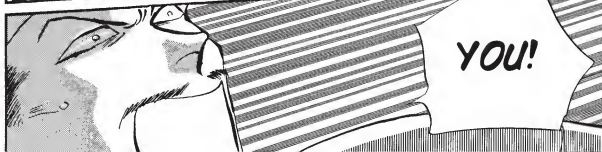
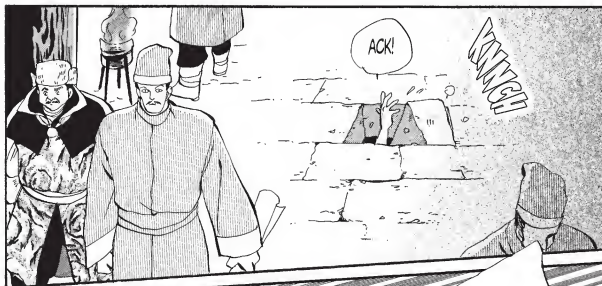
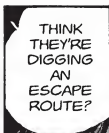
BENEATH THE BUDDHA STATUE

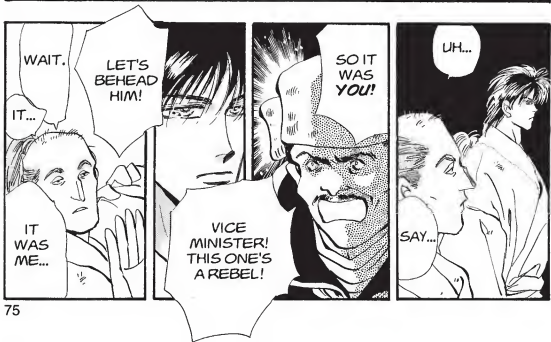


HEY!



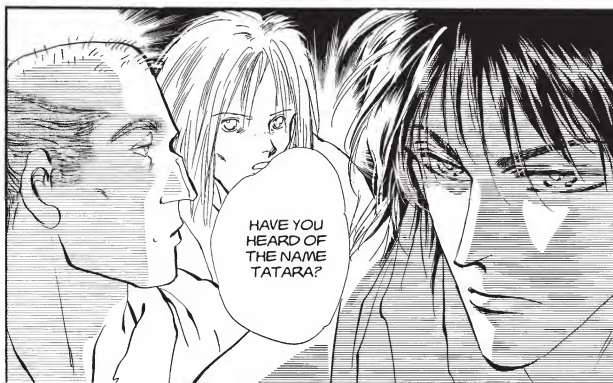
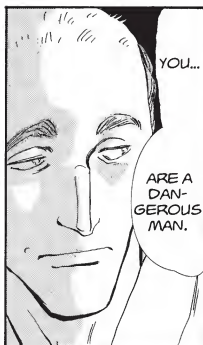
DO A GOOD
JOB!
THIS'LL BE
YOUR
GRAVE!

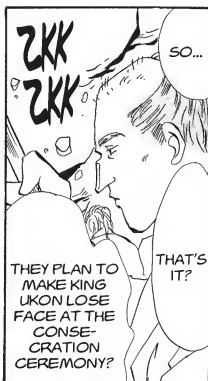










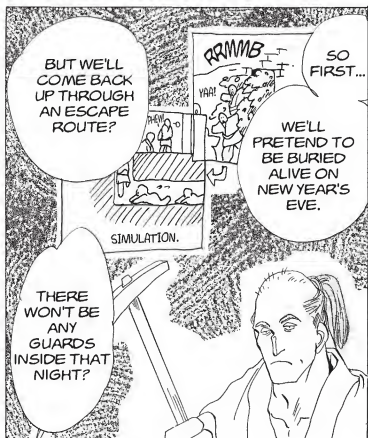
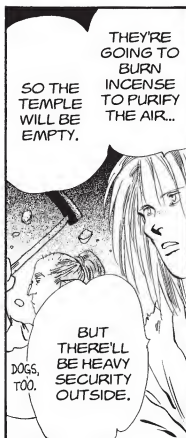


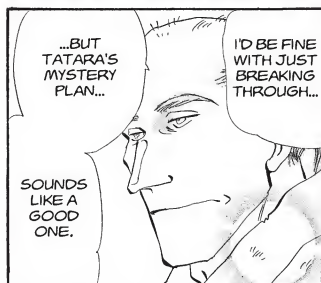
...I
WASN'T
TOLD.

YEAH?
ZKK
ZKK

HOW?

AND
THEN
THEY'LL
SET US
FREE.



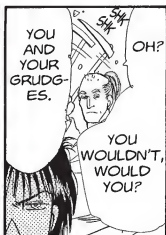




I WON'T
ACCEPT
ANY OF
TATARA'S
HELP.



MAYBE
I'VE
GIVEN
YOU
TOO
MUCH
CREDIT.



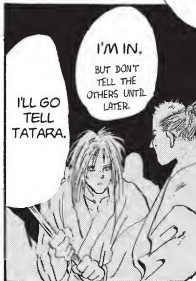
YOU
AND
YOUR
GRUDGE-
ES.

OH?

YOU
WOULDN'T,
WOULD
YOU?



I THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT
LEAD THE
WAY FOR
THE REST
OF US.



I'LL GO
TELL
TATARA.

I'M IN.
BUT DON'T
TELL THE
OTHERS UNTIL
LATER.







UNH...

WHOA!



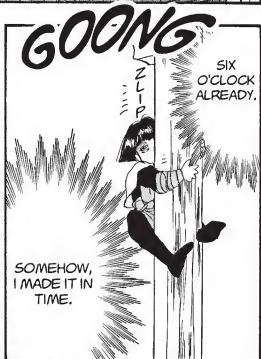
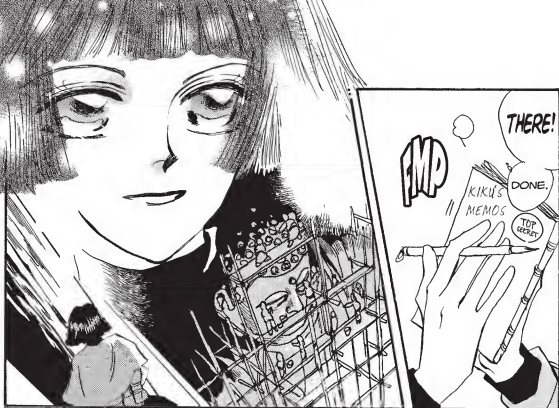
ICHIMATSU
WILL BE
OFFERING
MORE
GIFTS
FROM
THE
BLACK
KING.

THAT'S
WHEN...



SKREE!





ASAGI, MEANWHILE...

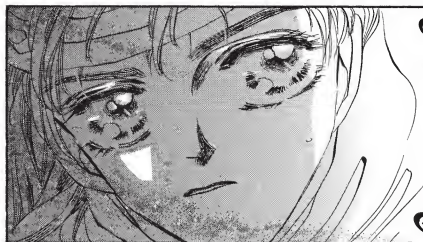


I DON'T WANT TO MOVE.
IT'S TOO COLD.

TAMU



SEEMS LIKE I FALL A LOT...



GOONG

SIX O'CLOCK.

GOONG



WHAT
HAPPENED
TO
SARASA?

SHE'S
NOT
HERE
YET.



I DON'T
SEE ANY
SIGN OF
TROUBLE...

DID
SOME-
THING
GO
WRONG?

I HAVE TO GET
BACK UP
THERE
BEFORE 7...



...OR ELSE I
WON'T BE ABLE
TO GET OUT.



GOONG

SEVEN
O' CLOCK!

GOONG

THANK
YOU.

THIS IS
THE
REST OF
THE
GOLD.

MY
BACK--

MY BACK'S
CRAMPING
UP!

DOES
THIS
HAPPEN
A LOT!?

WHY?

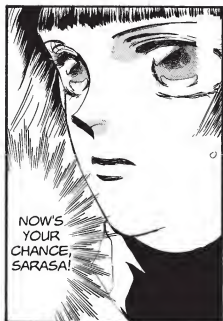
OW!

HUH?

WHAT
IS
IT?

GOONG

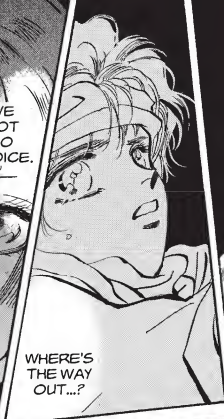
GOONG





I'VE
GOT
NO
CHOICE.

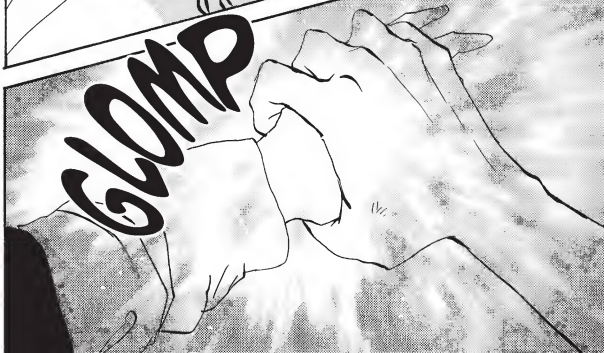
I'LL STAY
BEHIND,
TOO!

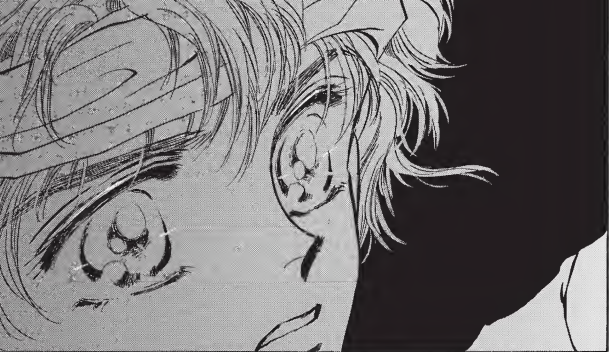


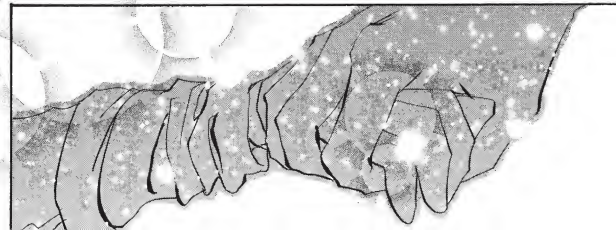
WHERE'S
THE WAY
OUT...?



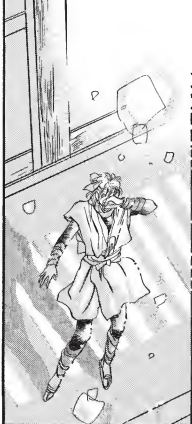
WHICH
WAY!?







SHURI...

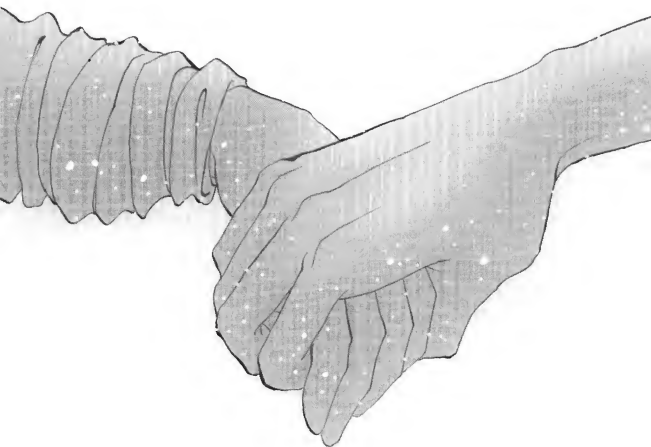








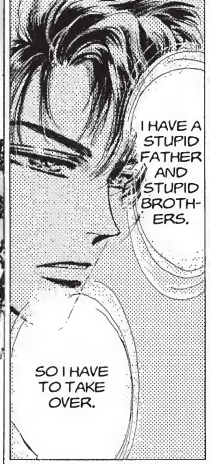
GOLD TALE 3: RUMBLING



HIS HAND WAS COLD.

IT WAS COVERED IN DIRT.

I KNOW THAT HAND SO WELL.



I HAVE A
STUPID
FATHER
AND
STUPID
BROTHERS.

SO I HAVE
TO TAKE
OVER.



NOW,
I CAN
SEE...

THERE
WERE
SO
MANY
SIGNS...

TINY TAM-TAM TIME ③

The Buddha in this story has
nothing to do with the
famous Great Buddha
of Nara.



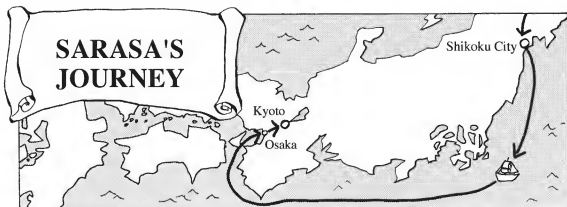
But I hear it took a ton of work
for people to build it way back
when... And here I'm destroying one!
I'm sorry!



FEEDING A DEER
BISCUITS IN NARA PARK.

TAMU

SARASA'S JOURNEY





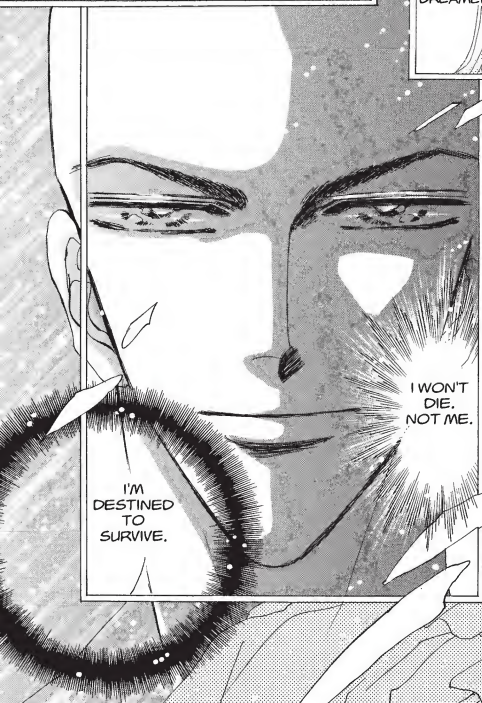
I DON'T
CARE
WHAT
HAPPENS
TO
THEM.

MY LIFE
IS
WORTH
MORE
THAN
THEIRS.



I'LL
GIVE YOU
A LIFE OF
LUXURY...

...SUCH
AS YOU
NEVER
DREAMED.



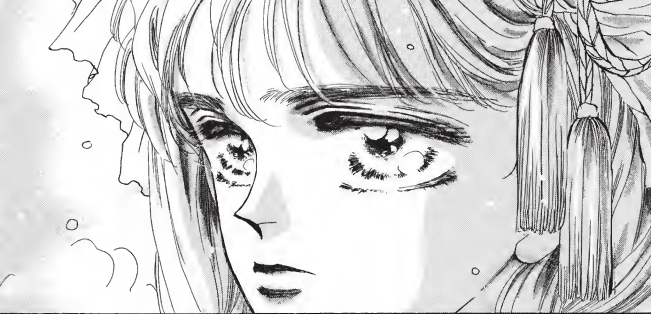
I'M
DESTINED
TO
SURVIVE.

I WON'T
DIE.
NOT ME.



LEAVE
IT TO
ME.

I WILL
DEFEND
OKI-
NAWA.



...WERE
THOSE OF
THE RED
KING.

THE STRENGTH
AND INTENSITY
THAT I FOUND SO
ATTRACTIVE...



A COUN-
TRY FULL
OF LIFE.



HE'S DEAD...

HE'S
STILL
WITH
ME.

...BUT WE
WERE
ALWAYS
CON-
NECTED.

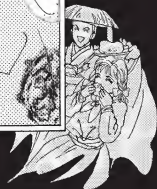
YOUR
FAMILY
SHOULD
BE WITH
YOU, TOO.

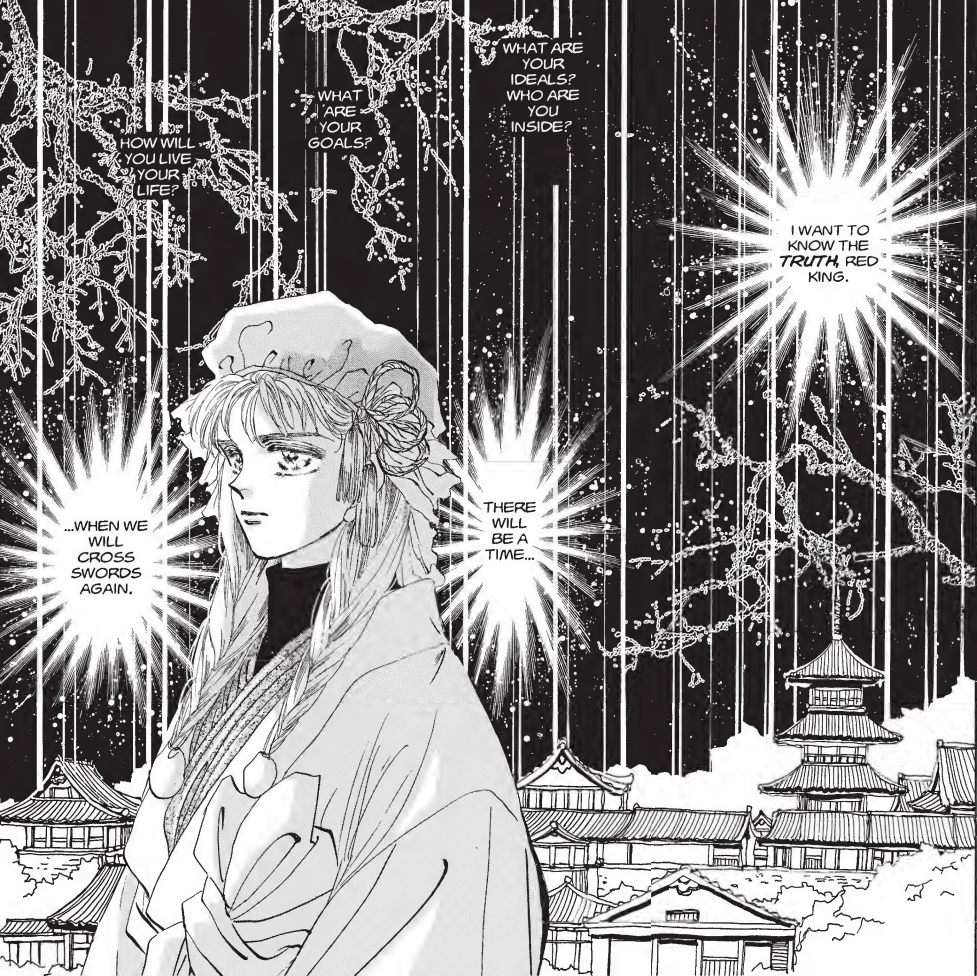


THE
MARK
ON MY
BACK...

MY
FATHER
BRANDED
ME WITH
THIS
MARK OF
SLAVERY.

BUT WHAT
ABOUT THE
WARMTH...?





HOW WILL
YOU LIVE
YOUR
LIFE?

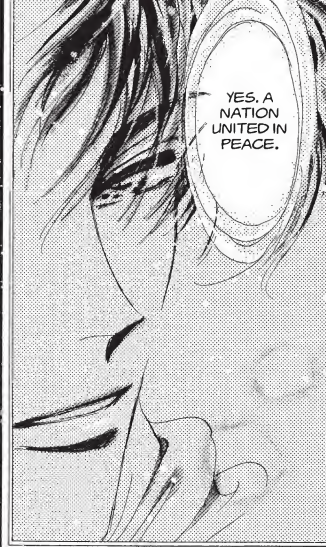
WHAT
ARE
YOUR
GOALS?

WHAT ARE
YOUR
IDEALS?
WHO ARE
YOU
INSIDE?

I WANT TO
KNOW THE
TRUTH, RED
KING.

...WHEN WE
WILL
CROSS
SWORDS
AGAIN.

THERE
WILL
BE A
TIME...



YES, A
NATION
UNITED IN
PEACE.

DID I MISTAKE HIS
ARROGANCE FOR
STRENGTH?

...HIS HUNGER
FOR POWER
FOR KINDNESS?



I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE.





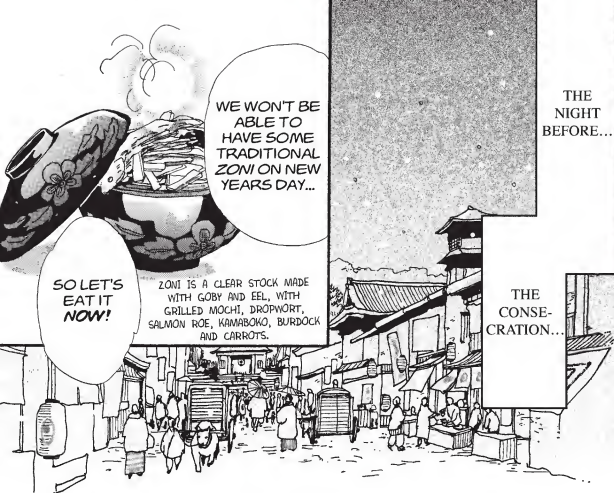
THE
NIGHT
BEFORE...

WE WON'T BE
ABLE TO
HAVE SOME
TRADITIONAL
ZONI ON NEW
YEARS DAY...

THE
CONSE-
CRATION...

SO LET'S
EAT IT
NOW!

ZONI IS A CLEAR STOCK MADE
WITH GOBY AND EEL, WITH
GRILLED MOCHI, DROPWORT,
SALMON ROE, KAMABOKO, BURDOCK
AND CARROTS.



THE MAN I
LOVE IS
BEAUTIFUL!

WHAT?!

HE HAS
AN OLD-
LADY
FETISH!

HOW DARE
YOU CALL
HER OLD!?

HEH

KIKU
AND
ICHI-
MATSU,
YOU
TWO...

...ARE
EX-
ACTLY
THE
SAME!

THIS
ISN'T
REAL
ZONI,
SARASA.

THIS
IS TOO
RUSTIC.

TSK.

AND
SO
MUCH!
YUM!

ZONI'S
SUPPOSED
TO HAVE
WHITE
MISO AND
ROUND
MOCHI!

IT'S
OLD
SENDAI-
STYLE!

ARE
YOU
CRITI-
CIZING
OUR
ZONI!?

YOU
CAN'T
EVEN
SEE
THE
MOCHI!

YUCK!

KANG
KANG
KANG

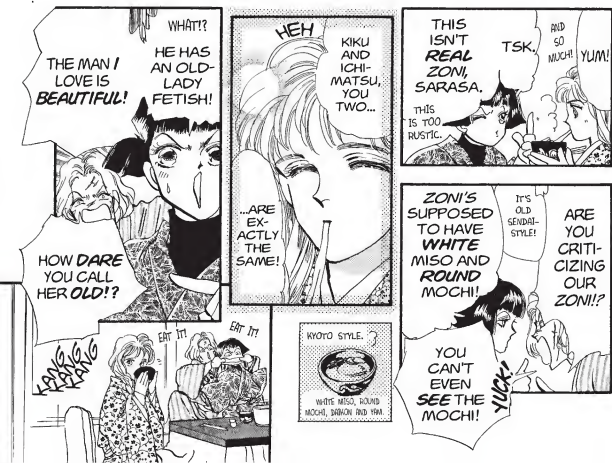
EAT IT!

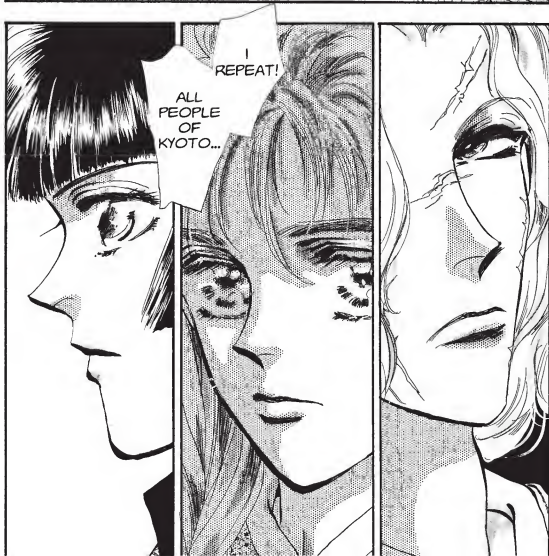
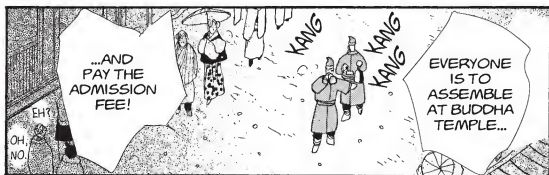
EAT IT!

KYOTO STYLE.



WHITE MISO, ROUND
MOCHI, SALMON AND YAM.







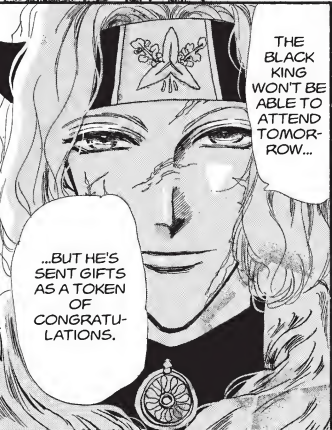
ALL MY
FRIENDS
IN THE
WEST,
TODAY--

LET'S
GO.

ALL
RIGHT.

I'M GOING TO
DESTROY THE
CONSECRATION--

...AND
BRING
SHAME
TO
UKON!



THE
BLACK
KING
WON'T BE
ABLE TO
ATTEND
TOMOR-
ROW...

...BUT HE'S
SENT GIFTS
AS A TOKEN
OF
CONGRATU-
LATIONS.



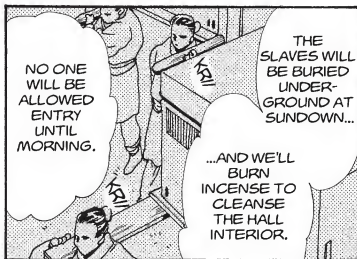
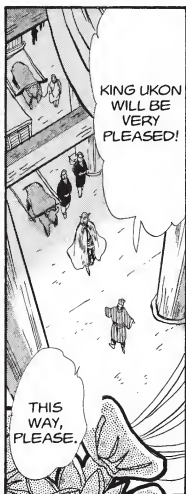
YOU
LOOK
BUSY.

OH, YES.
FINAL
PREPARA-
TIONS.
NO BREAKS
NOW.

WELL,
LORD
ICHI-
MATSU.

TING
TING

BAM
BAM



VERTICAL TAM-TAM TIME ③

MEANWHILE, ASAGI...

I'LL WASH
YOUR
BACK FOR
YOU, SIR.

夜

NIGHT



I DON'T WANT TO GET
OUT. IT'S TOO COLD.

TANU

THE
POWER OF
KING UKON
WILL
RESOUND

--OMMOOZ--

...IN
EVERY
COR-
NER
OF
THE
LAND!



I'M
SURE...

...TOMORROW
MORNING WILL
SIGNAL THE
BIRTH OF A NEW
ERA.



SHH!

I
WONDER
WHAT
EXACTLY
WILL BE
RESOUND-
ING?

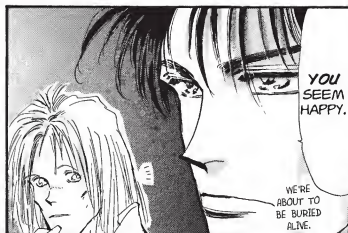
FOR NOW...

WE'LL
WAIT
HERE...
...UNTIL
SUN-
DOWN.



SLAVES,
HEAR
ME!

YOUR
WORK IS
NOW
DONE.



YOU
SEEM
HAPPY.

WE'RE
ABOUT TO
BE BURIED
ALIVE.



ORDINARILY,
YOU WOULD
NEVER HAVE
GOTTEN YOUR
OWN GRAVE.

BUT NOW
YOU WILL BE
LAID TO
REST
BENEATH
THE
BUDDHA!



THAT
MUST
BE
WHY...

...I EXIST
HERE AND
NOW.



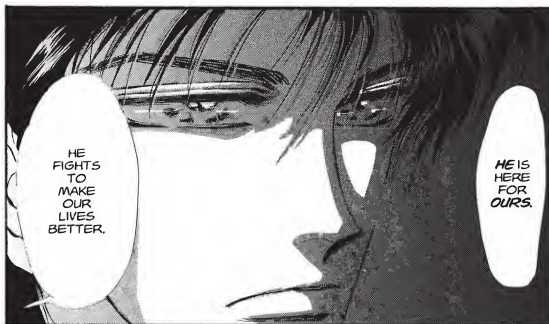
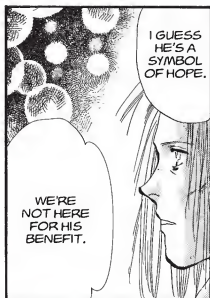
I WAS
USEFUL
TO
TATARA.

SURE
I
AM.

BECAUSE
I WAS
HERE.



BE
GRATE-
FUL!





...UNTIL THE
CEREMONY
TOMORROW
MORNING!

THEN WE
HEREBY
SEAL THE
BUDDHA
TEMPLE...

KA

TKK

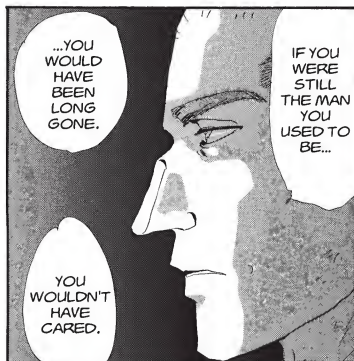
DID YOU
DOUBLE
CHECK?

YES,
SIR.

THERE'S
NOBODY
INSIDE.

YAWN!

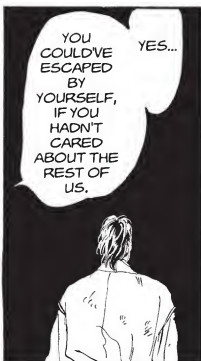




...YOU
WOULD
HAVE
BEEN
LONG
GONE.

YOU
WOULDN'T
HAVE
CARED.

IF YOU
WERE
STILL
THE MAN
YOU
USED TO
BE...



YOU
COULD'VE
ESCAPED
BY
YOURSELF,
IF YOU
HADN'T
CARED
ABOUT THE
REST OF
US.

YES...



DON'T BE
ASHAMED
TO
CHANGE.

DON'T BE
ASHAMED
OF WHO
YOU ARE
NOW.



YOU AND
TATARA
BOTH.



BUT...

YOU
SUGGESTED
DIGGING A
WAY OUT.

YOU,
TOO,
WERE A
RAY OF
HOPE
FOR
EVERY-
ONE.



IDIOT.

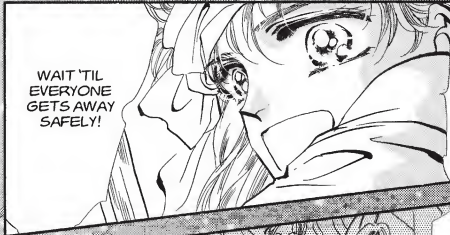
BECAUSE YOU'RE NO
LONGER KING, YOU
MAKE ME WANT TO
BELIEVE...

...THAT YOU CAN
CARRY OUR
HOPES AND
DREAMS.

GOOOOOONG



GOOOOOONG



WAIT 'TIL
EVERYONE
GETS AWAY
SAFELY!

LET'S NOT
CELE-
BRATE
JUST YET!



YEAH!

TATARA!

YOU'RE
RIGHT!

GOONG

TATARA!



GOOONG





BITTER?
ME...?

GOONG

EASY.



INSIDE
THE
BUDDHA.



LEAVE
THE REST
TO ME.

OKAY!

PUT ON
THESE
HAPPI
COATS
AND
HIDE
'TIL THE
CERE-
MONY.

THANKS
EVERY-
ONE!



ALL
OF
US?
WHERE?

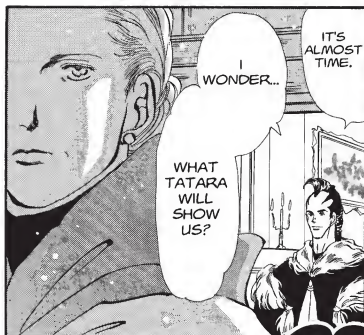
HIDE?



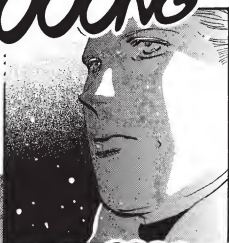
BUT
WHERE
NOBODY
COULD
SEE YOU!

THE
MOST
VISIBLE
PLACE...

HUH? WHERE'S THAT?



GOOONG



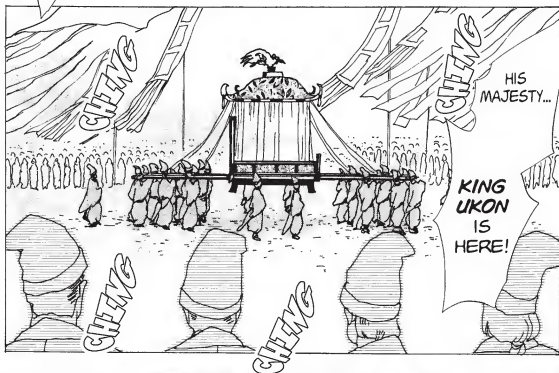
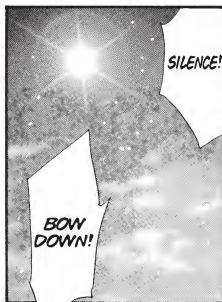
GOOONG





NEW
YEAR'S
DAY.

THE CONSECRATION CEREMONY FOR
THE STATUE OF BUDDHA AT THE
GREAT UKON TEMPLE.







SORRY.

BUT
PROBABLY
NOT
ANY-
MORE.

ONCE AGAIN,
THIS IS
THE ONLY
WAY.



SHARP

I LIKE
SHARP
OBSERV-
ERS.

YOU
MIGHT
HAVE
GONE
FAR IN
YOUR
CAREER.



WOK

OH,
NO!



FOR THIS
GLORIOUS
NEW
YEAR...

THERE'S
MY
BASTARD
OF A
FATHER...

HIS MAJESTY
INITIATES A
NEW
IMPERIAL
ERA-**HEIGA!**

SHE
MUST
HAVE
LOST
HER
PLACE
AS
QUEEN.

BUT THE
WOMAN
NEXT TO
HIM ISN'T
MY
MOTHER.



VICE
CAPTAIN.

I SEE NO
SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITY.

PHEW!

WHAT A
HUGE CROWD!

THE
SECURITY
IS TIGHT.



"TRANQUILITY"?

OOPS! SMOKING'S
PROBABLY
PROHIBITED!

FOR
THIS
DAY
AND
AGE?



MAY THE
WORLD
REMAIN, AS
THE NAME
IMPLIES, IN
"TRANQUIL
ELEGANCE"!

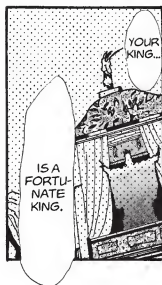
NO MORE
"HEAVEN'S JOY"
EH, TENGA?

HEI-
GA?



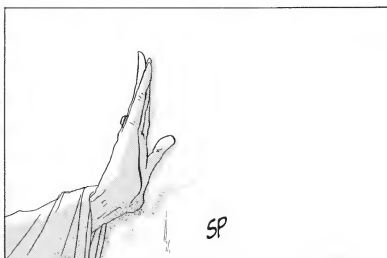
IS...

ANYTHING
TROUBLING
YOU?



YOUR
KING...

IS A
FORTU-
NATE
KING.



SP



OUR
NATION IS
PROSPER-
ING.

NOWHERE
IS THERE A
TRACE OF
MISERY.

THE
JUBILANT
QUAVER
OF MY
SOUL?

LORD
BUDDHA!

CAN
YOU
FEEL
IT?



SHH. YEP.

THE
NATION...

IS
THAT...

KING
UKON?

GIVES
OBEISANCE
TO KING
UKON...

...FOR
ALL
ETERNITY.



PULL THE
COVER!

NOW!

MEN SHALL
SING THE
GLORIES...

SFF

...OF MY
WORLD FOR
ALL
ETERNITY!

YOUR
MAJESTY.

A WORD
TO THE
WISE.

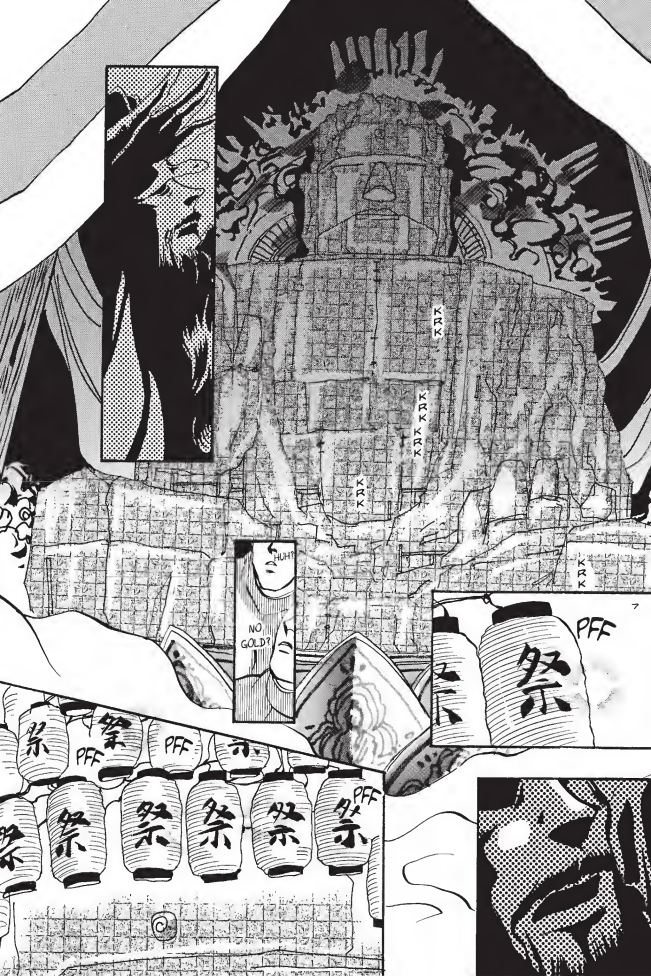
○
LORD
BUDDHA!

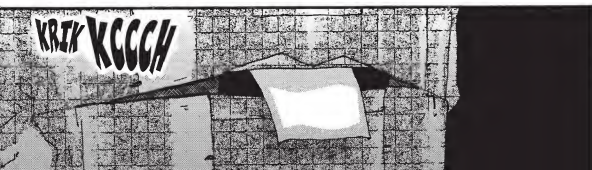
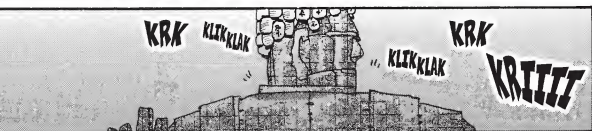
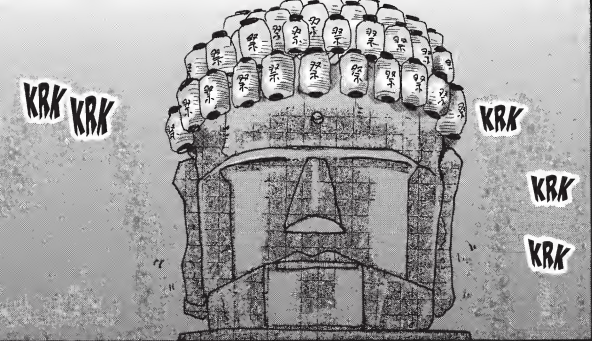
BESTOW
UPON ME
YOUR
NEVER-
ENDING
SPLENDOR!

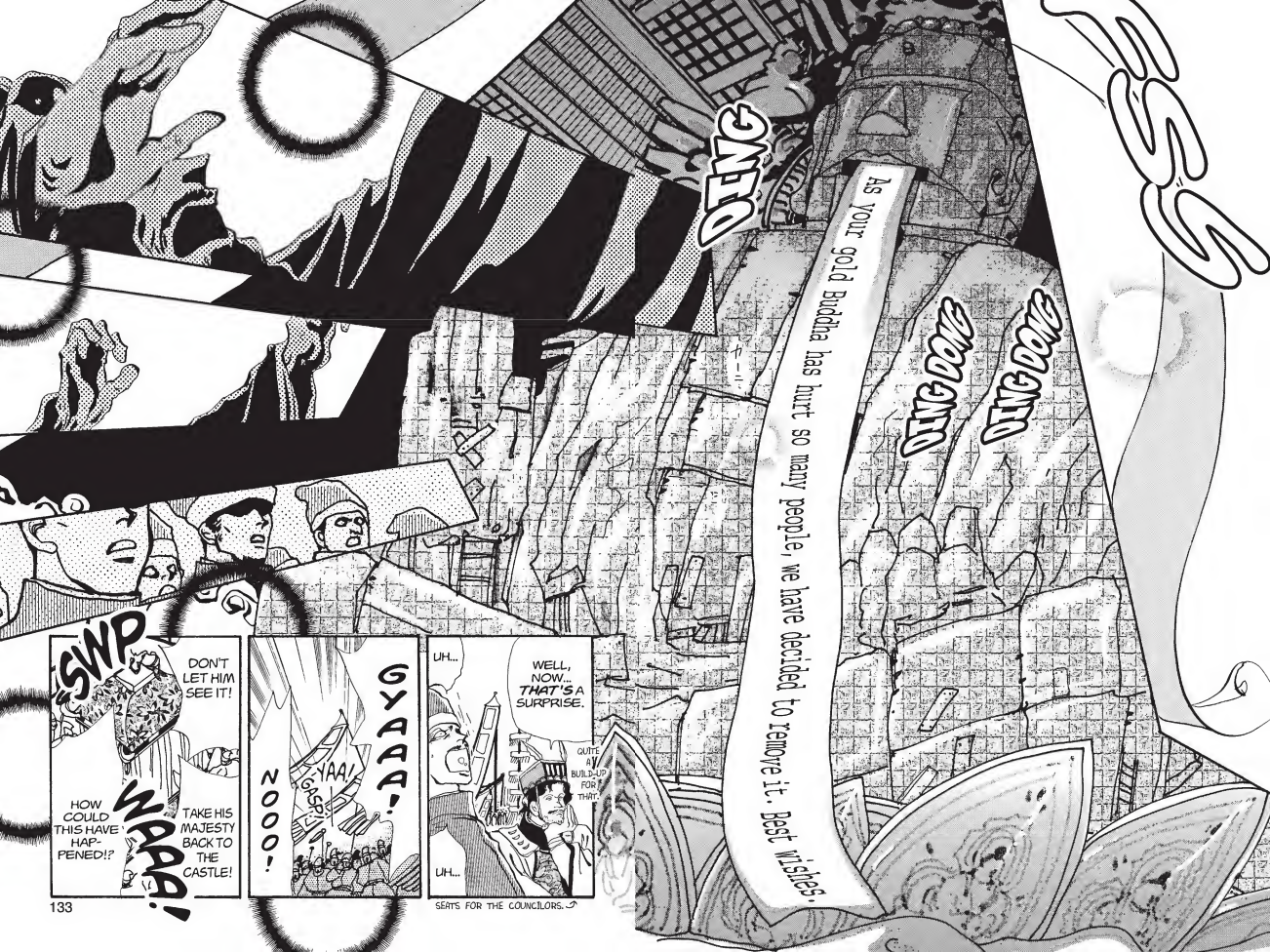
SFF

THE MAN
WHO SAYS
THE WORLD
IS HIS...IS
USUALLY
ABOUT TO
TAKE A
FALL.

FZSH







DING

As your gold Buddha has hurt so many people, we have decided to remove it. Best wishes.

DING DING

DING DING

SS

SWP
NAPAI!
HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED!?

DON'T LET HIM SEE IT!

TAKE HIS MAJESTY BACK TO THE CASTLE!

2000-
YAA!
YAA!
YAA!

UH...
WELL, NOW... THAT'S A SURPRISE.
UH...
GUTTE A BUILD-UP FOR THIRY.

SEATS FOR THE COUNCILORS.

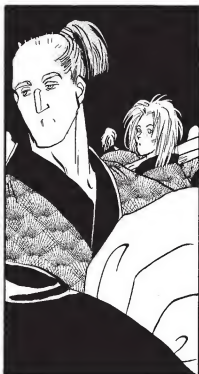
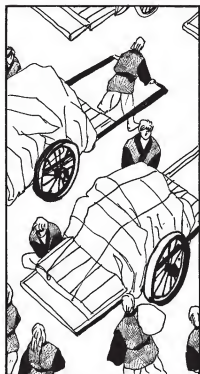
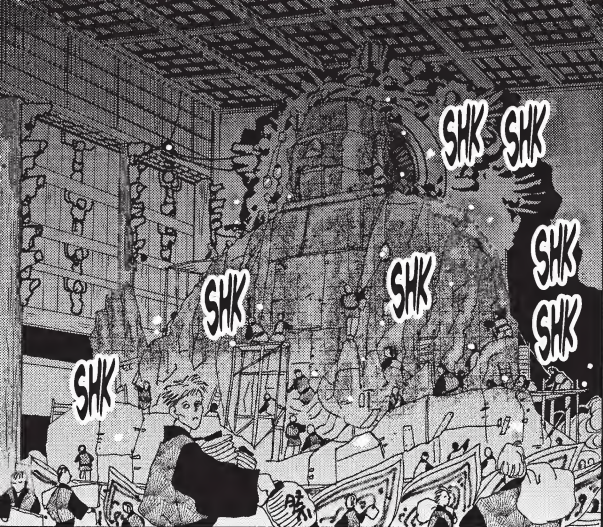


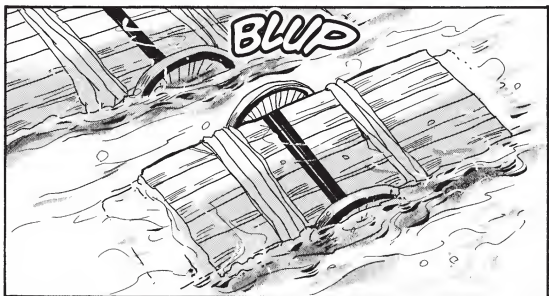
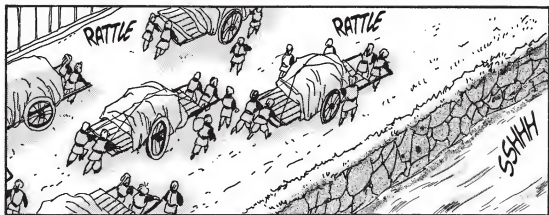
•IMPERIAL GUARDS ARE SEPARATE FROM CITY SECURITY.

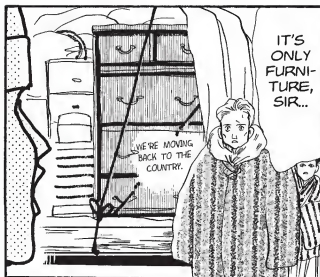






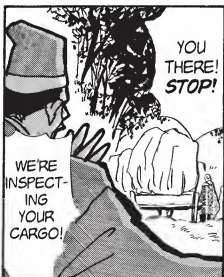






IT'S ONLY FURNITURE, SIR...

WE'RE MOVING BACK TO THE COUNTRY.



YOU THERE! STOP!

WE'RE INSPECTING YOUR CARGO!



WHAT!?

THEN WHERE COULD IT HAVE GONE!?

CAPTAIN!

THE PEOPLE IN THE NORTH DON'T HAVE IT!

TASK FORCE H.Q.



BUT... BUT...

WHAT WORKERS!?

WHERE DID THEY GO!?

WHO GAVE THAT ORDER!?

WHAT FOOL WOULD HAVE EVIDENCE DESTROYED!?



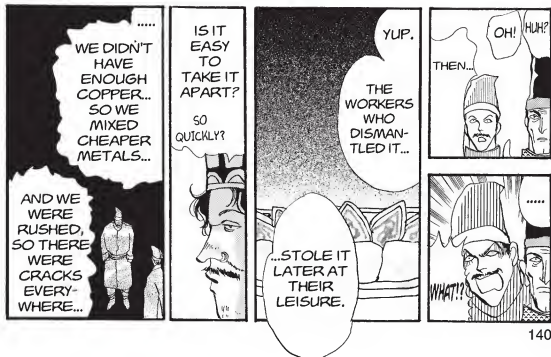
HEY...

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PAPIER-MÂCHÉ?

OH... THE WORKERS HAVE DISMANTLED IT.



WHEN WAS IT STOLEN? WHAT WERE THE GUARDS DOING YESTERDAY...?





THOSE
INSOLENT
BASTARDS!

SHHH

THEY
HUMILI-
ATED
KING
UKON.

THIS IS
THE KIND
OF THING
THAT'LL
REALLY
SHAKE A
KING'S
AUTHORI-
TY.



YOU
SHOULD
CHECK
UNDER-
GROUND
WHILE
YOU'RE AT
IT.

IF I WERE
THEM, I'D
GO ALL
THE WAY.



THE
BURIED
SLAVES
ARE GONE!
EVERY
LAST ONE!

OH,
NO!

YAA!

SEE?



THEY
FREED
THE SLAVES,

...AND
STOLE
THE
BUDDHA.

RUINED
THE
CERE-
MONY...

THEY
SURE
DID A
FINE
JOB...



SHHH
THEY'RE
REVERSIBLE?

BRR! NOW.

FLIP YOUR
COATS
INSIDE
OUT.



MF!



MF!

M

M

M

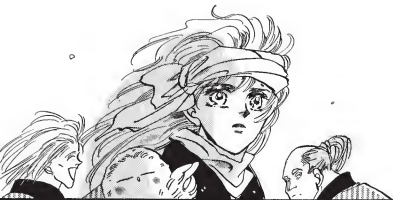
M

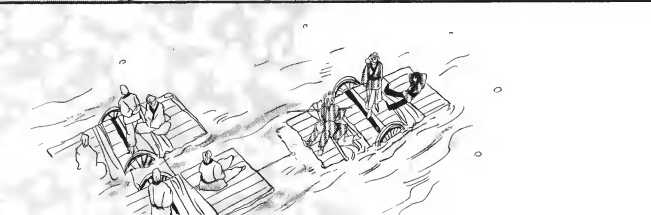
M

M

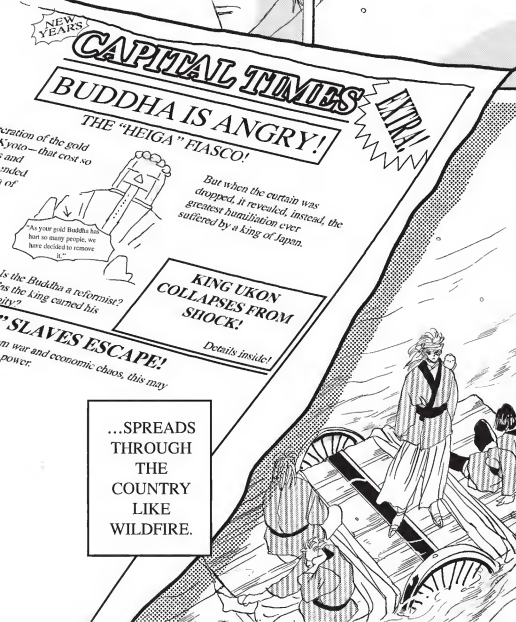
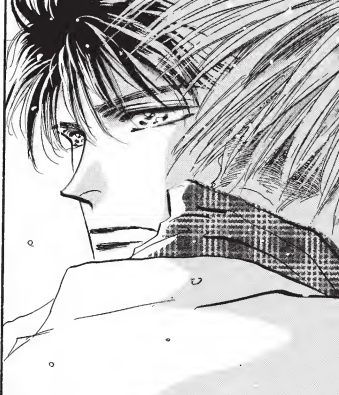


I MISSED THE GOOD PART!







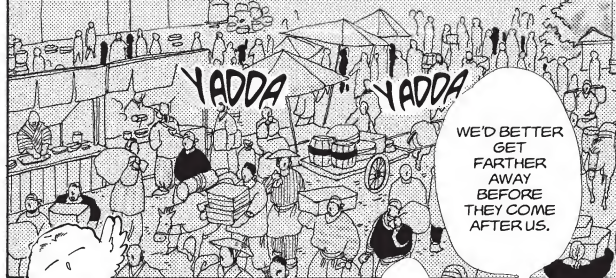


NEWS
OF THE
INCIDENT...

...SPREADS
THROUGH
THE
COUNTRY
LIKE
WILDFIRE.



GOLD TALE 4: FLOWING



WE'D BETTER
GET
FARTHER
AWAY
BEFORE
THEY COME
AFTER US.

YEAH.

MY FRIENDS
SHOULD BE
HERE TO
PICK ME UP...

BUT
WHO?

WE'RE
BARELY WEST
OF KYOTO,
AND IT'S
NOT SO
COLD
ANYMORE.

TMP
TMP





TINY TAM-TAM TIME ④

A new athletics club was built in my neighborhood. It's fun to go swimming!



My eyes are tired from too much video game time!

Everybody, make sure you exercise while you're young! (I never played any sports...) Though I'm pretty healthy, for now! :)

See you later!
Check out the bonus pages!
TAMU.

SARASA'S JOURNEY



GOOD
JOB!

OH!
OH!
ORIBE!
MOM!

THANK
YOU,
TATA-
RA!

THANK
YOU...

EVERYONE'S
BEEN
TALKING
ABOUT THE
BUDDHA
FIASCO!

TATARA.

NACHI...
ARE YOU
BETTER
NOW?

TH-THANKS

WHAT'S
WITH
THE
"LIL'
TA"?

WE'RE THE
DELEGATION--
HERE
TO PICK
YOU UP!

YOU
JUST
DID...

DO YOU
WANT US TO
JUST GO
AROUND
SCREAMING
"TATARA"!?

GA

BETTER
THAN
BETTER!

HA

HA

OSAKA
THE PORT OF SAKAI

FATHER!

HISHA!

UNCLE!

WOW!

WHOA!

OO!

YOU'RE
ALIVE!

WHERE'S
EVERYONE
FROM
OCHIORI!...

LORD
TATA-
RA!

HISHA!



THAT'S WHY
I HIT HER
OPEN-
HANDED.

COULDN'T USED A FIST

HIJIRI! YOU
SAID WE
COULDN'T
BE MAD
AT HER!



I DOUBT
ANYONE
ELSE
WOULD DO
THAT...

SO I'LL
GET IT
OVER
WITH.



IN
THIS
DAY
AND
AGE...

WHO
KNOWS
WHAT
WILL
TURN
OUT TO
BE
RIGHT?

I'M NOT
GOING TO
CRITICIZE...

...HOW
YOU
BEHAVE
AS A
WOMAN.



MAKE UP YOUR MIND!

YOU ALREADY SAID IT!

WHAT AM I, YOUR STRAIGHT MAN?

...OR THAT'S WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY TO YOU.

YOUR FACE TELLS ME...

...YOU KNOW THIS ALREADY.

I'LL JUST SAY THIS.

WHEN EVERYONE DECLARED THEY'D BE ON YOUR SIDE...

ALL OF US...

IT TOOK A HECK OF A LOT OF COURAGE AND DETERMINATION.

HIJIRI LOVES HIS HOME-LAND!

SOB!

I NEVER WANT KUMANO TO BE BURNED AGAIN.

NO! WRONG REASON!

MONEY?

WAP

THERE ARE SO MANY TREES WE CAN MAKE MONEY FROM.



IT'S ALL
RIGHT TO
PAUSE
TO THINK
SOME-
TIMES.

WHAT I'M
AFRAID
OF, FOR
YOUR
SAKE...

IS THAT
PEOPLE
WILL PUSH
YOU DOWN A
PATH YOU'RE
UNWILLING
TO TAKE.

AND IT MAY
GIVE
EVERYONE
ELSE A
CHANCE TO
STOP
DEPENDING
ON YOU SO
MUCH.

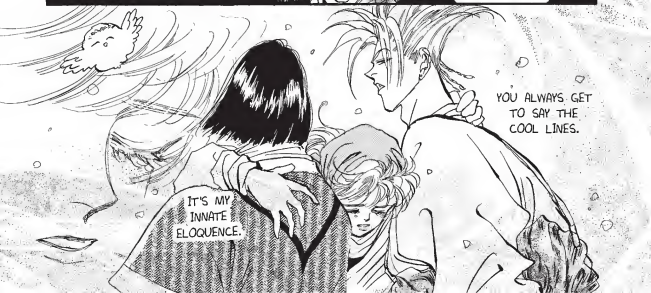
WE NEED
EVERY-
ONE
TO BE
STRONG.

JUST
SAY IT
ALREADY!

ENOUGH!

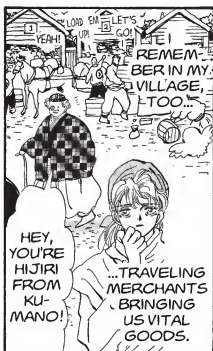
WELCOME
HOME.

NO ONE'S
MAD AT
YOU.



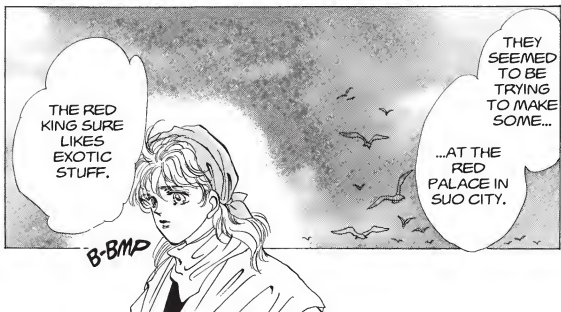
IT'S MY
INNATE
ELOQUENCE.

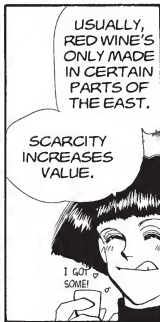
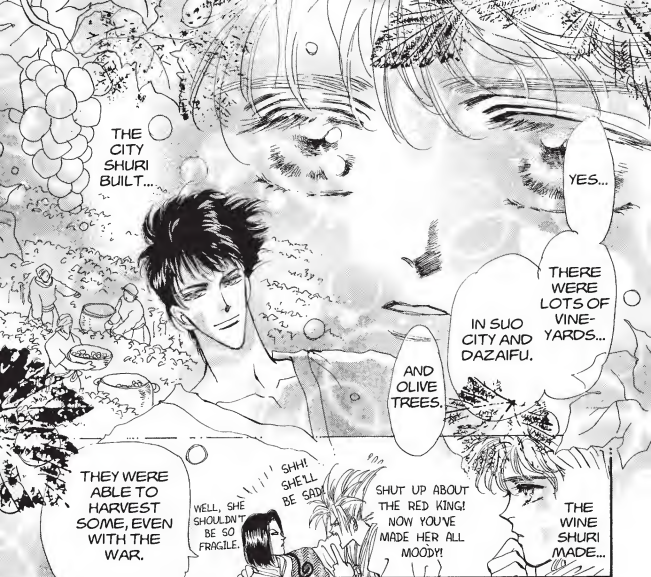
YOU ALWAYS GET
TO SAY THE
COOL LINES.



HMM...







HMM. LET'S
SMOOTH
BODY.

LONG,
CLEAN
FINISH.

FINE
AROMA.

NICE
COLOR.

SO...

YOU WANT
TO SELL
THIS IN THE
MARKET?

THANK
YOU.

A
REFERRAL
BY NONE
OTHER
THAN THE
PEOPLE
OF
KUMANO!

WE'D
DEFINITELY
LIKE TO DO
BUSINESS
WITH YOU.

NOT A
BAD
DEAL.

RICH
PEOPLE
ALL LOVE
RED WINE.

YES.



WE DON'T
HAVE THE
MER-
CHANDISE
YET.

THERE'S
ONE
HITCH.



IT'S NEW
YEARS DAY,
FOR
CRYIN'
OUT LOUD!

THIS IS
LUDI-
CROUS!

SO YOU
WANT US
TO
MAKE AN
INVEST-
MENT.

HAD TO BE
A CATCH.

MR. SAKAI,
IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE
US.



WE CAN
MAKE
MORE
IF THE
CITY
IS
REBUILT.

WITH
THE
PROPER
FACILI-
TIES...



OH?



WILL
RISE IN
THE
WEST!

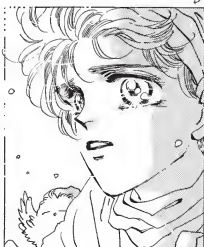
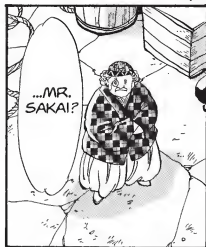
THE SUN
FOR THE
NEW
ERA--

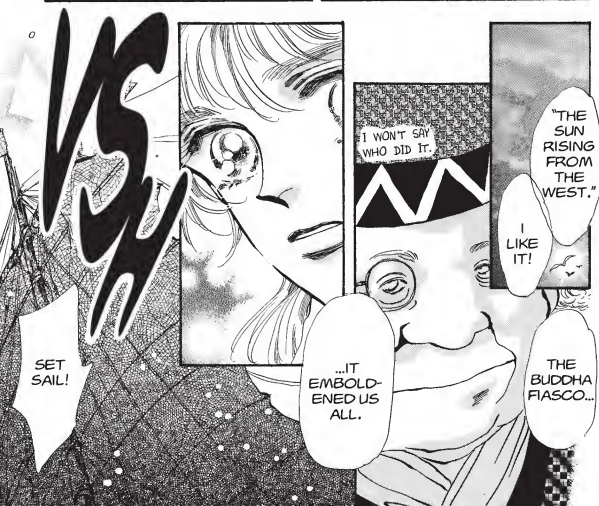


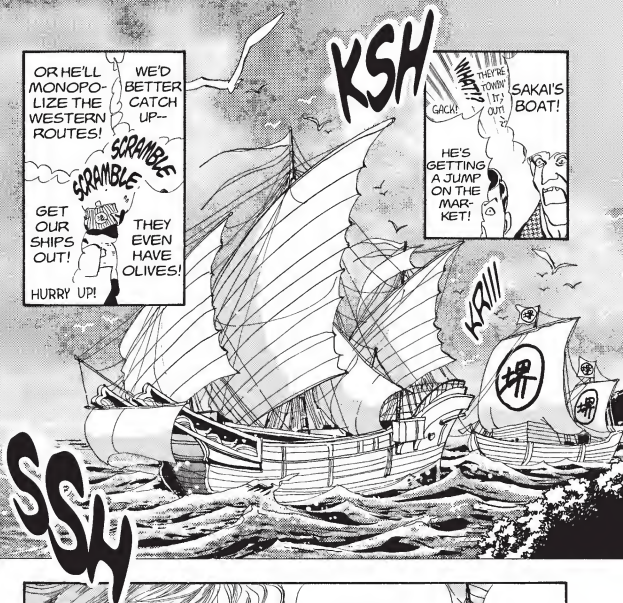
THE WEST
KEEPS ITS
EYES ON
THE
FUTURE.

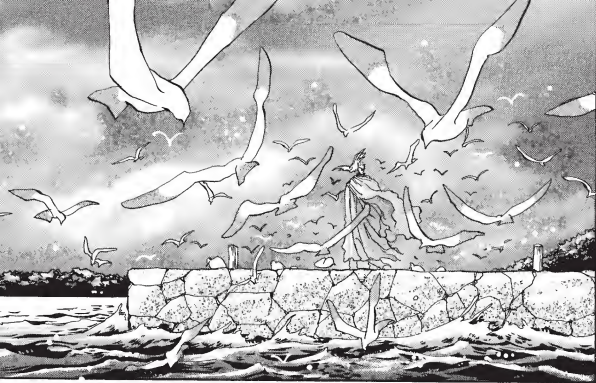


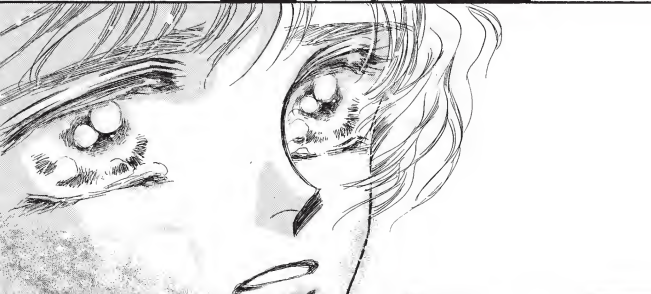














AGEHA...

KYOTO

DON'T LET
ICHIMATSU
OF HIDA
GET AWAY!



WE
HAVE
NO
PROOF...

...BUT
YOU'RE
A
SUS-
PECT.

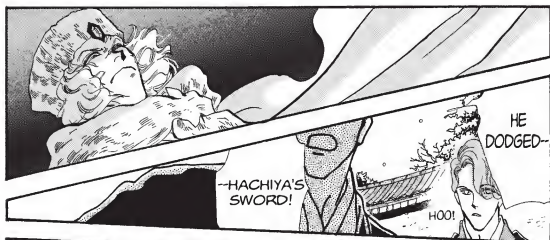


I'M
RETURNING
TO THE
NORTH.

WHAT'S
THIS?

YOU DON'T
THINK I
WAS
INVOLVED
IN THE
BUDDHA
FIASCO?





HACHIIYA'S
SWORD!

HE
DODGED--

HOO!



...NEVER
DRAWS HIS
SWORD
OUTSIDE THE
BATTLE-
FIELD.

YOU'RE
LUCKY,
YARO-
GUMI.

ICHI-
MATSU
OF
HIDA...



WHAT'S
THE
MEAN-
ING OF
THIS!?

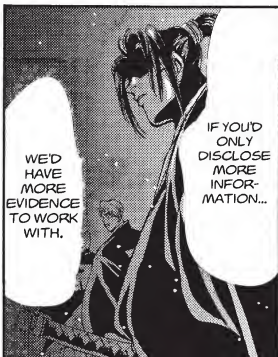
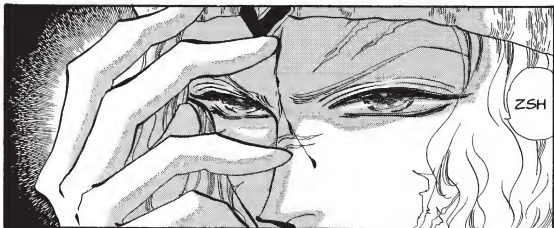
IDIoT.

OF
COURSE
NOT!



DID
THE
BLACK
PRINCE
ORDER
IT?

IS HE
PLOTTING
AN INSUR-
RECTION?





THEY
STOLE
THE
BUDDHA,

AS A
MESSAGE
FROM THE
REBELS!

AND TRIES TO
ACT AS IF
NOTHING
HAPPENED.

THE
GOVERNMENT
NEVER SPEAKS
ABOUT THE
BUDDHA
INCIDENT...

BUT THE
TRUTH
SPREADS...

THERE'S
A
SAVIOR!?

IT'S A
REVO-
LUTION
TO OVER-
THROW
THE
ROYAL
FAMILY!?

CAN
THEY
DO
IT!?

WE
FOUND
THE
PRINTER'S
HIDEOUT!

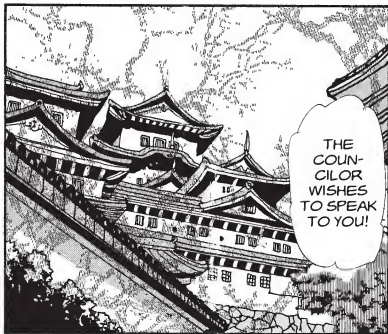
...THANKS TO
THE
UNDERGROUND
PRESS.

IS
SOMETHING
GOING TO
CHANGE AT
LAST!?

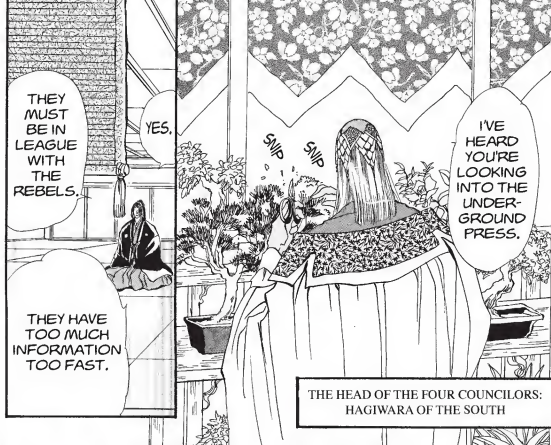
THEN
LET'S
HIT IT.





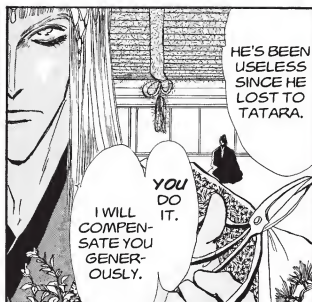


•IN CHARGE OF
KYOTO CITY SECURITY.





...MY
RE-
GRET'S,
SIR...



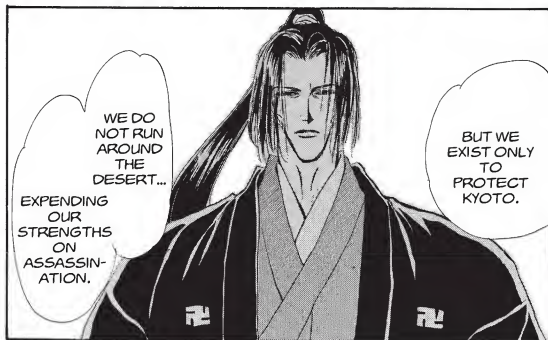
I WILL
COMPEN-
SATE YOU
GENER-
OUSLY.

YOU
DO
IT.

HE'S BEEN
USELESS
SINCE HE
LOST TO
TATARA.



SURELY
YOU HAVE
AN
ASSASSIN
IN YOUR
EMPLOY.



WE DO
NOT RUN
AROUND
THE
DESERT...

EXPENDING
OUR
STRENGTHS
ON
ASSASSIN-
ATION.

BUT WE
EXIST ONLY
TO
PROTECT
KYOTO.



NO
CHARM
AT ALL...

WHAT A
STUBBORN
MAN.

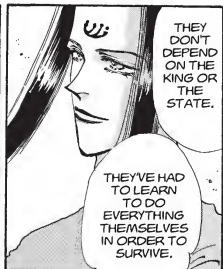
SUO CITY

LORD
TATARA!

LORD
TATARA!









I COULD HAVE
ABANDONED IT AS A
LOST CAUSE.

SO MANY OTHER
LANDS HAVE MORE
RESOURCES.

IT'S
YOUR HOME.

MINE,
TOOOO!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE I
FIND
COMFORT
COMING
BACK TO
THE
DESERT...

SWF
I SPENT
SO MUCH
TIME IN
PLACES
WITH
WATER
AND
TREES.
EVEN SNOW.

SUO HAS TREES,
BUT IT'S STILL
DESERT OUTSIDE

WE
WANTED
TO MAKE
THIS LAND
PLENTIFUL
AND
GREEN,
TOGETHER.

BUT THIS
IS WHERE
OUR
DREAMS
BEGAN.

IT'S THE
HOME OF
MY
FRIENDS.

AND
MORE
THAN
THAT,
CHACHA.

IT'S MY
HOME...



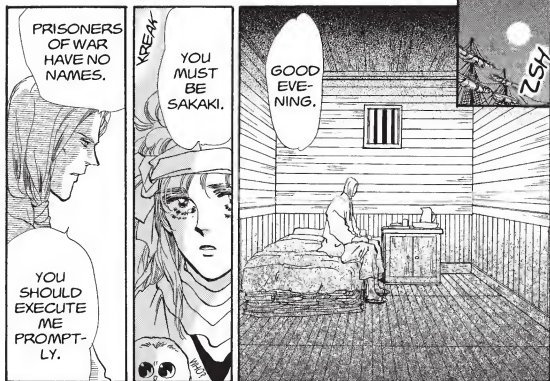
TATARA!

LET'S
WORK
TOGETHER!

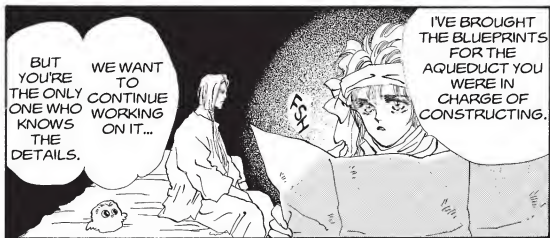
HEY,
TATARA!

TATARA~!





IN TATARAS SHIP.





LOVE'S EYES MEET IN PALE DAWN.

SWEET SORROW OF PARTING.



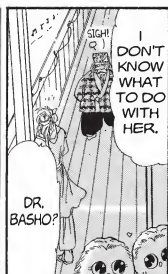
TOO QUICKLY
COMES THE MORN.



THE NIGHT WAS
BUT A DREAM.

LIKE PETALS FLUTTERING

RELUCTANT SLEEVES SLIP AWAY.



TATARA!

EEE!

PLOP

A
SPIDER!

you!

THE ONE
WHO
KILLED
UNTEN IN
OKINAWA--

KINARI
THE
SPIDER!

AN
ASSASSIN
IS
COMING!

NICE
MOOOOVE!

I JUST
THOUGHT I'D
TELL YOU,
FOR OLD
TIME'S
SAKE...

I AM NOT
THE
KILLER
THEY
SENT.

A KILLER IS
COMING.

WATCH
YOUR BACK.



THE USUAL BONUS!

TAM-TAM TIME

HELLO! THANKS FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!

HOW ARE YOU?

Basara's up to Volume 17!
It'll keep going a while
longer, so stay tuned!

I sometimes do work for
Deluxe Comics. Keep an eye
out for my illustrations, too!



It's the end of December
right now. I hope the new
year brings happiness and good
things happen to everyone! (I'm
in a New Year's Day mood
already...) We always
have white miso and
round mochi in our
zoni at my house,
by the way.

TAMU.

It's this:
↙

IF YOU LIVED IN THE
WORLD OF BASARA, WHAT
KIND OF LIFE WOULD YOU
LIKE TO LEAD?

There!

WHAT'S THIS?
OOH.

I have a question
for everyone.

Maybe
more
like a
favor.

A passionate boy who hears stories of Tataru and tries to join them—with his dog! (Against the pleas of his parents.)

But he dies along the way...



Or...

I'M A CHEF!

I mean...

I'M GOING ON A TOUR OF STUDY WITH MY TRUSTY CHEF'S KNIFE!

MY GOAL IS TO BE THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD CHEF!

Or...

I WANT TO BE TATARA!

Just so you know...

This isn't what I mean.

I WANT TO BE AGEHA!

I'LL MARRY A RICH GUY.

Etc., etc.

I'LL EVEN STEAL TATARA'S SWORD!

I'M THE GREATEST THIEF IN THE WORLD!

I'LL BE A TEACHER AND BUILD A SCHOOL.

Or...

I'M GOING TO GO STUDY ABROAD.

I'LL STAY AWAY ON A SHIP.

Though a girl with a secret crush on Asagi might be amusing, too...



WHY JUST ASAGI...?

I'd like this to be about the lives of people who generally don't come across Tataru and her crew. (It can take place anywhere. You can even make up a funky imaginary island.)

How would you live? What would you like to accomplish? What kind of job do you want? (You can be young or old, male or female!)

↑
Though brief encounters might be fun, too!

Well... I want to do the story, but I can't promise... If it never happens, I'm sorry! ♪

I ask because I'd like to do a bonus story like that sometime.

♪ ↗
A story about people other than Tatara's crew.

YOU WON'T GET ANY PRIZES.

I DON'T THINK I COULD ANNOUNCE ANY "WINNERS" EITHER.

Send me all sorts of ideas...

...and all sorts of lifestyles!

YOU COULD JOT IT DOWN IN THE MARGINS WHEN YOU WRITE ME!

It could be short & and simple!



If that's okay, send 'em here! ♪

(You can send all letters and questions here.) →

Please send me your comments, too, of course! ♪

I'll be waiting to hear from you! ♪ ...

Yumi Tamura
c/o VIZ Media, LLC
Editorial Department
PO Box 77010
San Francisco CA 94107

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES, AND WORK HARD! (THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO!) ♪

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS:

TURN IN WORK ON TIME! TRY NEW THINGS! GO SWIMMING MORE! ETC.

DON'T LOSE HEART!!

SEE YOU IN VOLUME 18!

BUY BESTU-COMICS!

SEE YOU LATER! WRITE ME! ♪ ♪
I SAY THIS EVERY YEAR. ♪

